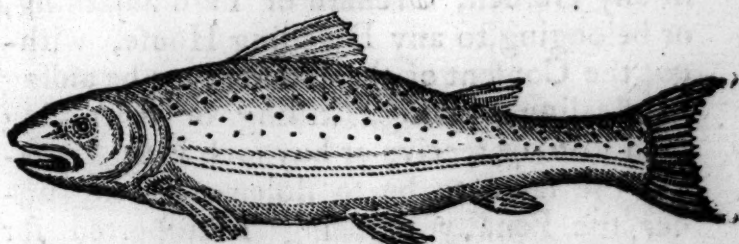


To all Lovers of Angling.
ONESIMUS USTONSON,
 Successor to the late Mr. JOHN HERRO, at the



No. 48, the Bottom of Bell-Yard, Temple-Bar,
MAKES all Sorts of Fishing Rods, and all Manner of
 the best Fishing Tackle, Wholesale and Retail, at
 the lowest Rates; sells the right KIRBY's Hooks, being
 the best tempered of any made, which cannot be had at
 any other Shop; the best Sort of Artificial Flies, Menow-
 Tackle, Jack and Perch, and Artificial Menows; and all
 Sorts of Artificial Baits, &c. made upon the said Hooks,
 in the neatest Manner, for Pike, Salmon and Trout;
 Spring Snap Hooks; Live and Dead Snap, and Live Bait-
 Hooks, Trowing Hooks of various Sorts; the best Sort of
 Treble and Double Box, and Single Swivels; Gimp, both
 Silver and Gold; the best and freshest India Weed or Grass,
 just come over; likewise a fresh Parcel of superfine Silk
 Worm Gut, no better ever seen in England, as fine as a
 Hair, and as strong as Six, the only Thing for Trout, Carp,
 and Salmon; the best Sort of Multiplying Brass Winches,
 both stop and plain; Waved Hair and Silk Lines, and all
 other Sorts of Lines for Angling; various Sorts of Reels
 and Cases; and all Sorts of Pocket Books for Tackle,
 Menow Kettles, and Nets to preserve Live Bait; Fishing
 Paniers and Bags; Variety of Gentle-Boxes and Worm-
 Bags; Landing-Nets and Hooks; Fishing Stools; Wicker
 and Leather Bottles; and many ther Curiosities, in the way
 of Angling. All Sorts of Trunks to shoot Darts and Pellets.

By Act 5th. Geo. III.

NO Person shall after the 1st Day of June 1765, steal, take, kill, or destroy any Fish, bred, kept, or preserved in any River or Stream, Pond, Pool, Moat, Stew or other Water, in any inclosed Park or Paddock, or in any Garden, Orchard or Yard adjoining, or belonging to any Dwelling House, without the Consent of the Owner; or be aiding in stealing, taking, killing or destroying such Fish, or receive or buy such Fish, knowing the same to be so stolen or taken, under the Penalty of being Transported for seven Years.

Nor shall take, kill or destroy, or attempt to take, kill or destroy, any Fish in any River or Stream, Pond, Pool or other Water, in any inclosed Ground, which shall be private Property, under the Penalty of 5*l.* to the Owner of such Fishery; or being committed to the House of Correction for Six Months.



Albany
790 5. aa. 8.

THE
TRUE ART
OF
ANGLING.



THE
TRUE ART
OF
ANGLING:

BEING

A clear and speedy Way of taking all Sorts of Fresh-Water Fish, with the Worm, Fly, Paste, and other Baits, in their proper Seasons. How to know the Haunts of Fish, and Angle for them in all Waters and Weathers, at the Top, Middle, or Bottom; Baits Natural and Artificial; The several Ways of Angling.

To which is added,

An account of the Season and Spawning time of each Fish, and an Account of the principal Rivers, the Fish they produce, and the proper Places to Angle for them in each River.

L O N D O N:

Printed for ONESIMUS USTONSON, N^o. 48,
Bell-Yard, Temple-Bar.

MDCCLXX.

THE T R U E O F A N G L I N G



A clear and easy Way of learning the
Fishes which are found in the
Ponds, and other small
lakes, and to the
and Angle is
Waters of
the River
Wye of Angling.

To which is
An account of the
of each fish, and
of the
the
each fish.

L O N D O N
Printed for O. Neale, Stationer, No. 48,
St. Paul's Church-yard.
MDCCLXXII.

TO THE
R E A D E R.

THIS Book has passed several EDITIONS. We have often admired it, for the instructions herein contained; but upon experience have found several things, as Oils, Ointments, &c. to be superfluous: We therefore have taken care to omit those that were not material, and have carefully corrected it in several other places; added the particular seasons for fishes spawning; and given an account of all the principal rivers, and the properest places to meet with

TO THE READER.

with success at each of them; and notwithstanding the smallness of the price, it contains as useful instructions as any yet published; many Gentlemen experienced in the Art, do recommend it as the most practical Book for all young Anglers.

THIS Book has passed several Editions. We have often admitted it for the instruction of our heron-catchers; but upon experience have found several things as Old Gentlemen say to be imperfect. We therefore have taken care to omit those that were not material, and have carefully corrected it in several other places; added the particular seasons for spawning; and given an account of all the principal rivers and the proposed places to meet with

THE

T H E

COMPLETE FISHER, &c.

*Instructions for rightly preparing Angling Tackle,
as Rods, Lines, Hooks, Floates, Plummets,
and other Matters required to accomplish the
Angler, &c.*

IF we consider recreations aright, they are intended to refresh the mind, and unbend our cares after toil, labour or study, and therefore ought not to be pursued with too much fatigue, lest they appear more like unto business than pleasure, and so in the end become tiresome; but when leisure hours will admit, they are very convenient to sweeten the cares of life. Among these, Angling is held by all the ingenious, the most diverting for those that are contemplative; and tho' it requires much ingenuity, yet it is perform'd with little labour; yet, as in all other curious matters, rules are necessary to be observed in it, and to that end I shall, as experience, the best master, teaches, proceed gradually,

B

2 THE TRUE ART

dually, to lay down such, and perhaps the greatest part of mankind are ignorant of, as therefore according to the method chosen, it will be necessary first to speak of tackle, without the knowledge of which, the angler must be like one that undertakes business and wants tools to accomplish it.

As for your tops, haffe or yew switches, gathered about the middle of December, when most free from sap, are accounted very good, though the two following, or preceding months, may reasonably serve, run them over a gentle heat, to make them tough; let the stock and tops be taper, smooth and strait, the pieces of each rod suitable in an exact symmetry, free from knots or else they will be deficient in casting, and never strike well, nor be truly pliable, but at a knot be apt to break, and spoil your sport. To keep them in good order, bind them close to a streight pole, and so let them continue long, that they may not warp, fasten a loop of silk or horse hair at the end of it with shoemakers-thread, that the line may have play on it, and tho' many use silk lines, yet I prefer the horse-hair as the best; and in twisting or braiding, observe an exact evenness for one hair being shorter than the rest in a link, the whole stress will lye on that, and in breaking renders the rest much the weaker, and often a good fish is lost for want of this observance.

make

make your knots sure, that they slip not ; as for the colour of the hair, it being free from nits or goutiness, which some call botches, the pale, waterish colour is the best to deceive in a clear stream, but in wheyish or muddy water, you may chuse indifferently a line ; for the ground angle need not be so strong as that you intend for your rod at the artificial fly, abating in the latter a hair from top to bottom, in every link from one or two, to six or eight, or more.

As for the hook, it must be long in the Shank, and of a compass somewhat inclining to roundness, for if the shank be strait the point will stand outward ; fasten the hair on the inside of the shank, to preserve it from fretting whether you angle at top or bottom ; proportion your hook for strength and compass, to the number of hairs you angle with next it, neither use great hooks to small baits, nor great baits to little ones ; Barbel and Chub must have large hooks ; Carps, Eels, Tench, Pearch, Breams, those of a much lesser size ; and experience teaches. Trouts in clear water, Graylings, Smelts, Roaches, Salmon-smelts, Dace, Ruff, and Gudgeons are soonest taken with small hooks, though many use great ones for the Trout, especially in muddy water, yet the Salmon must be angled for with a hook according to his strength ; hooks for dubflies

4 THE TRUE ART

should be generally small, and so for cod-baits, but larger for worms, yet such as some use for the latter, do not generally take in clear water: When you whip your hook, which is stiled arming, do it with silk lightly rubb'd with shoemakers wax, twisting it round on the lower part of the line, almost to the bent of the hook, on the inside, having first smoothed the shank of the hook with a whetstone; and for worms let it be red coloured silk, but for cod-bait, pastes, &c. white.

Floats should be of cork for river-fishing, but for ponds, meers, and other standing water, quill and pens will do very well, and in very slow rivers, especially when you are to angle near the top with tender baits or pastes: as for your cork, let it be the finest, free from holes or flaws, bore it through with a small hot iron, thrust in a quill sizable, shaped with a knife to the likeness of a pyramid, egg, or pear, a proportionable bigness, and with a pumice-stone finely smooth it; run your line through the quill, and wedge it in with the uppermost hard part of the quill, the smaller end of the cork being towards the hook, and the bigger towards the rod; let the cork be so poised with lead on the line, that the quill standing directly upright, the least bite or nibble may sink the cork.

To

To lead your line do it with a shot cloven, and then closed exactly on it, but not above two of these on any line, and that an inch and a half or two inches distant from each other, and the lowermost plumb seven or eight inches from the hook; but for a running line either in clear or muddy water, nine or ten inches, and if you in a river find a sandy bottom, it being full of wood, with few stones, shape your lead a diamond-fashion, or to that of a barley-corn or oval, bring the ends very close and smooth to the line, yet make it black, for the brightness will scare the fish.

It is very necessary to have a landing net and hook, or you may lose many a large fish, by breaking line or hold before you can land him. The net you may fasten to the end of a long manageable pole: As for the hook it must be a large one with a scrue, to scrue into a socket at the end of a pole, and when your fish is entangled, clap it into the mouth of it, and draw it to land; but this latter is chiefly for Barbel, Salmon, and other strong fish.

As for your pannier, let it be of light osier twigs, neatly woven and worked up, and to be the more compleatly prepared on all occasions, have in readiness divers sorts of hooks, lines, links ready twilled, hair and silk of several colours, small strong thread,

6 THE TRUE ART

lead plummets, shoemakers wax, and floats of divers sizes, line-cases, whet-stone, pen-knife, worm-bags, boxes, baits, scissars. And thus having pretty well accoutred my angler with tackle, it will be next necessary to know what baits he must use, for on it mainly depends success or frustration.

*Baits bred on Trees, Herbs, Plants, Worms ;
their Season, and what Fish take them ;
when and how, &c.*

BAITS for the sundry kinds of fish are numerous, and many of them must be considered in their proper season, or they are of no value ; as for earth-worms, they are accounted a general bait, they and gentles are always in season, earth-bobs only from Martinmas till the latter end of April, cow-turd-bobs from thence till Michaelmas, oak-worms, worms bread of trees, plants and herbs, palmers, or wool-beds, flies, caterpillars, cod-baits, &c. all the summer. And here it is requisite to note, that when one sort of bait come in season, the others are not useles. If you are to angle in clear water at the ground, it will be necessary to have with you cod-baits, worms, gentles and bobs, to try which will best take, but in muddy water for
Trouts,

Trouts, with the running line ; you are required for better sport, to have tagtails, gilt tails, brandlings, meadow-worms, some scoured in moss and water, others directed with a riddle and some again with heavy earth ; for almost at the same time they will take them, some one way done, and some another, as experience has often demonstrated.

But to come nearer, and shew you what your baits are, how shaped, and to be chosen.

I. The garden-worm, lob-worm, or treachet and dew-worm, are one and the same, though in divers places their names thus alter, and this worm, one of the greatest size, is an excellent bait for Chevin, Trout, Salmon, Barbel, or Eel, tho' the smaller of the same kind are not much affected with them : That with a broad tail, a red head, and a streak down the back is the best, they are found in the latter end of the summer, in the evening, in gardens, church-yards, and may be driven out of the earth with the juice of walnut-tree leaves and water, poured on their holes.

II. Marsh or meadow-worms are found in marshy ground, or in banks of rivers, in fertile mould, being somewhat blueish, and being well scour'd, it will be tough and lively, and is a very good bait, especially in March, April, and September for Pearch, Flounder, Bream, Carp, Salmon, Trout, Grayling ;
tho'

8 THE TRUE ART

tho' many, and not without success, use it from Candlemas to Michaelmas, and in moss and water it may be kept fifteen days before use.

III. Brandlings, red-worms, and gilt-tails, are found in old dunghills, rotten earth, cow's dung, hog's dung, or tanner's bark, when it is used and cast by. The brandling and gilt tail are especially good for taking Pearch, Tench, Bream, Salmon, Gudgeon, Smelt; they are taken by Trout and Grayling in muddy or clear water, and the red-worms, well scoured, are taken by Gudgeon, Tench, Pearch, and Bream, and best in muddy water.

IV. The worm called tagtail, is of a flesh-colour, having at his tail a yellow tag, near half an inch long, found in meadows after a shower of rain, or in chalky ground, in March and April, if the weather be temperate; this is held an extraordinary good bait for a Trout in cloudy weather, and a little scouring will serve it.

V. The palmer-fly, palmer-worm, wool-bed, and cankers, are counted one and the same, being bred on herbs, trees, and plants, not being properly a caterpillar, yet the shape of one, being in the outward part rough and woolly, being excellent baits for the Chub, Grayling, Trout, Dace, or Roach. The Palmer-fly and May-fly are held the foundation of fly-angling, and have usually good success.

VI. The

OF ANGLING.

9

VI. The oak-worm, caterpillar, cabbage-worm, crabtree-worm, or jack, colwort-worm, or Grub, may be long kept with the leaves of those trees or plants that bred them, in boxes with holes for air, or in withy bark. They take Chub, Roach, Dace and Trout, the oak-worm being preferable to any bred on trees or plants, being the best taken on the top of the water, tho' you may go as deep as you will with them; to get these, search the colewort or cabbage leaves, beat the oak, crab-tree, or haw-thorn; some of them are hard and tough, others smooth and soft, some horned-tailed, others have them on their heads, some smooth, others hairy.

VII. Bobs, of these there are two sorts, they are found in sandy or mellow ground, especially after plowing. The one is justly called the earth bob, white grub, or white bait, being much bigger than a gentle, having a red head, the body soft, and full of white guts, the other is lesser, and somewhat blueish, found many times in digging on heaths; they are excellent baits till after Mid-April to the first of November, to take Tench, Bream, Trout, Chub, Roach, Smelts, Salmon, Dace, and Carp; they must be kept in an earthen vessel, with the earth you find them in, covered very close to keep out the cold and wind; some boil them about two minutes in milk before they use them, which

10 THE TRUE ART

makes them tougher and whiter, others dip them in honey or gum-ivy for Carp, Bream, and both ways prove successful.

VIII. Gentles or maggots, may be kept with flesh, and scoured well with wheat-bran; they are easie to be had, or bred by putrefaction. These are sometimes added to a worm on the hook, sometimes to a dub-fly, and so take Salmon-smelts, but oftner used by themselves two or three on a hook; the day before you angle, put them in a box with gum-ivy, and it will prove successfull to your sport; they are good baits for Tench, Barbel, Bream, Bleak, Gudgeon, Trout, Dace, Chub, Carp, and Roach.

IX. Flag-worms, or dock-worms, are the same, found among flags, in old pits or ponds, viz. The small fibres of the flag-roots, by opening little husks: it is pale, yellow, or white, longer and more slender than a gentle, and these may be kept in bran, and are good baits for Bream, Tench, Roach, Carp, Dace, Bleak and Pearch: when you fish with it for the Grayling, use the smallest line, and the float, and fish nine or ten inches from the ground.

X. The bark-worm, or ash grub, are all one, being very full and white, bent round from the tail to the head, the head being red, and the parts very tender, resembling a young dorr or humble-bee, and may be used
all

all the year, but particularly from Michaelmas to the middle of May or June, and except the fly and cod-bait, is the best for Grayling, Dace, Roach and Chub; it is found best under the bark of an oak, ash, elder, or beach, especially when fell'd and they have lain about a year, or in the hollow of these trees when standing, where doted or rotten; it is a very tender bait, and the best on a bristled hook, by running the hook in at the head and up the belly, till it stays on the bristle, and no part of the hook's point appears out of it; they are kept well in wheat-bran, and take the Grayling with the smallest line: angle with the float, keeping the bait seven or eight inches from the bottom; but if you fish with it for Roach, Chub, or Dace, use indifferent Tackle.

XI. There is a bob found under a cow-turd, called the cow-turd bob, from the beginning of May to Michaelmas; some call it a clap-bait; this is like a gentle, but bigger; you may keep it sometimes in moss, but the best is to keep it in earth, dug up under the place where you find it; it is a very good bait for Trout; if you angle with it on a bristled hook, on the top of the water, and in the water, it is taken by Chub, Carp, Bream, Tench, Dace, and Roach.

XII. The cod-bait, cad-bait, cadisworm, or caseworm, are one and the same bait, though

12 THE TRUE ART

though of three sorts. The one is found under stones that lie loose and hollow in small brooks, shallow rivers, or very fine gravel, in a case or husk, and when fit for purpose, they are yellow; they are bigger than a gentle, having a black or blueish head. Another sort is found in pits, ponds, slow-running rivers, ditches, in cases or husks of rushes, water-weeds, straw, &c. and are by some called ruff-coats, or straw-worms; these are accounted principal baits for Bleak, Salmon, Smelts, Tench, Bream, Chub, Trout, Grayling, Dace. The next is a green sort, found in pits, ponds or ditches, in March, coming before the yellow ones, for they are not in season till the end of April, and in July are out of season; the third sort is proper in August, being smaller than the other. These must be kept tender in woollen bags when you carry them for use but to keep them long alive, in a green withey bark, taken off and hollowed like a trunk, lay it in the dew a night to moisten it.

Natural Flies for Baits, their Seasons, and where to be found, for what Fish they are proper, &c.

THE ant-flies are found in their hills, about the end of June, July, August, and most part of September, with the earth you take
with

with them, they may be kept in glass bottles; two or three of these fixed on the small hook, are certain baits for Chub, Roach and Dace, if you angle under water not above six inches from the bottom.

II. The brood of humble bees, hornets and wasps are good baits, dry them over a fire, or in an oven, so not being over done, they will last long, and sit handsomely on the hook, to take Chub, Eels, Bream, Flounders, Roach, or Dace; some boil them but then they will not keep long; hornets, wasps, and humble-bees, may be used alive, when their wings are a little grown and their legs short, especially for the Chub, as also the black-bee, breeding in clay-walls.

III. The fern fly or fern-bob, is found among fern from May-day to the end of August, it is thick and short of body, has two pair of wings, the uppermost reddish and hard, which may be taken off: The last ten days of May the Trout will take it every day, and the Chub refuses it no part of the summer.

IV. The drake-stone-fly and green-drake fly, the first of these is found under hollow stones at river sides: The body of it is pretty thick, and almost as broad at the tail as in the middle, it is of a curious brown colour, streaked a little with yellow on the back, but much more on the belly; he uses much the
water,

water, and seldom flies though he has a large wings that double on his back; he comes in about April, and continues till about the end of June, and is a very killing fly of Roach, Dace and Bleak; and the green-drake has his wings standing high like a butter-fly, and his motion in flying the same, the body is in some of a paler, in others of a darker yellow, ribbed with rows of green, long and slender; his tail turns up to his back, having three long whisks at the end of it; he comes in about the middle of May and continues till Midsummer, and is found in stoney rivers: with this bait for Flounders, Dace, Bleak, Roach, and Pearch.

V. The great moth that has a considerable big head with whitish wings, is to be found in summer evenings in gardens, on trees and plants; it speedily takes Chub if you dabble with it.

VI. The hawthorn-fly is black, found frequently on hawthorn-trees, when the leaves are but out, the best use this can be put to, is to dabb in a river for Trout.

VII. The ash-fly, woodcock-fly or oak-fly, is the same, under different names, and holds good from the beginning of May to the end of August, its of a brownish colour, and usually found in the body of an oak, or ash, standing with his head downwards towards the root of the tree, and is a very good bait

bait for Trout. And to make speedy work, put it long ways on the hook, and at the point a cob-bait, and let them sink six inches or a foot into the water, raise it gently, and having a short dibbing line, you need not fear Trouts in clear water, and instead of a cod-bait, if you have it not, you may use an oak-worm or green grub, you may dub this, or make it artificially with Isabella, coloured mohair, and bright brown bears-hair, wrapped on yellow silk. These being the principal flies used in angling, I now come to mixed baits of another nature.

The Bonnet Fly comes in season in June; is to be found amongst any standing grass, and is an excellent bait for Chub, Dace, &c.

Miscellany of Baits very taking, and much in Use.

I. SALMON spawn boiled, and fastened on the hook, is a very good Bait for Chub, and in some rivers for Trout, it being advantageous to the angler, especially in winter and spring if he keeps it salted; especially in places where Salmon used to spawn, for thither the fish gather to expect it.

II. Grasshoppers the latter end of June, all July and August, if their legs and outward wings be taken off, especially for Roach,
Trout,

Trout and Grayling, and here you may put a slender plate of lead on the shank of your hook, slenderest at the bent, then draw your grasshopper over it, after put a lesser grasshopper, or cod-bait at the point, and keep it moving, lifting up and sinking again; a Chub will also take the bait freely, and so will a Trout if you dib with it.

III. The water-cricket, water-house or creeper is but one, the setake Trout in March and April, and sometimes in May, if you angle at the river: It is to be angled with in clear water, within a foot of the bottom, some let it drag on the ground. This creeper is bred in stoney rivers, and held to turn into a stone-fly, about the middle of May, that fly not being any where seen before.

Lamery-pride, or seaven, is a very good bait for Chub and Eels, night or day: this is no other than little live things like small Eels, no thicker than a straw, and are to be found in sandy muddy heaps, near to the shoar in rivers.

Snails, the black and white, are good baits for Chub, very early in the morning, Trout and Eels take them on night-hooks, but the bellies of the black may be slit, so that the white may appear; some dib for Chub with house-crickets.

For Chub, Barbel, Roach, and Dace, you may angle with cheese or oat-cake, especially

ally at the ledger-bait; the cheese you may wrap up two or three days in a wet linnen cloth, or moisten it over with honey and water.

As for a Pike he is a greedy devourer, and therefore mostly delights in fish, frogs, &c. therefore your baits for him must be small Dace, Minnows, Roach, Salmon-smelt, Gudgeon, Bleak, Millers-thumb, also Trout and Eels well scoured in wheat-bran, to take away the slime; and indeed most sort of small fish he takes, and how you are to manage them on your hook, I shall tell you when I come to treat of the taking him in the river of Thames. Periwinkle, a kind of water-snail, is much used for Roach, being taken whole out of its shell: Shrimps, taken out of their husk or shell, may be used as a bait for Chub, Roach and Dace.

Pastes proper for the Angler.

PASTES are of several kinds, tho' tending to one and the same end: For a Chub or Chevin, make a paste of the fattest old cheese, the suet of a mutton kidney, a little strong runnet, mix them equally and finely together, then put as much powder of turmerick as will give them a fine yellow colour.

for

18 THE TRUE ART

For Roach and Dace: grate fine bread into a little fine water, wherein gum-ivy has been soaked. For the Barbel in August, make a paste of new cheese and mutton suet, for Roach or Dace, you may put a little butter to your crumb-bait, and colour it with saffron. For Carp or Tench, mix crumbs of bread with honey, though for a Carp I reckon this the surest.

Take bean-flower, or for want of it, wheat flour; the inside of the leg of a young rabbit, catkin, or whelp, white bees-wax, and sheeps suet proportionable, beat them in a mortar till well incorporated, then moisten the mass with clarified honey, and work it up into little Balls before a gentle fire.

The Chub in winter takes a paste made of strong Cheshire cheese, beaten with butter and saffron till it becomes a lemon colour.

Stoned cherries, fine grated manchet, sheep's blood and saffron make a good paste for Roach, Dace, Bleak, Chub, Trout, Pearch; and for the Chub, only put a little rusty Bacon in it.

Another excellent paste is made of the fattest old cheese, mutton kidney-suet, strong runnet, anniseed water, wheat-flour, and the dripping of rusty Bacon held against the fire.

What

What is to be observed in Angling with Pastes.

YOU must proportion the Quantity of your paste you put on your hook to the smallness or largeness of the fish you angle for, as in other baits.

II. You may try oils upon any of these pastes, and as you see your success, so continue the one or the other. And the best for this purpose are oil of polypody of the oak, oil of petre, oil of ivy, and as properly gum of ivy, and assafoetida.

III. To strengthen any paste, and so prevent its washing off the hook, it will not be amiss to beat a small quantity of fine flax cut short, cotton, wool, or fine lint, among them, which will prove very binding; those that you would have keep long, put a little white Bees-wax into them, and anoint them with clarified honey, the latter you may wipe off when you see occasion.

IV. Paste, or tender baits must not be angled with in rapid streams, but on a small hook in pits, ponds, meers, or slow running rivers: Your eye in this sort of angling must be quick, your rod somewhat stiff, and a nimble hand to strike, or else the bait and fish will quickly bid you farewell. This is the better done with a quill-float than a cork, which sooner shews the nibble or bite: and if you
then

20 THE TRUE ART

then be not very quick, your labour is lost, and with these pastes success is usually had for Bream, Bleak, Chub, Roach, Dace, Carp, Tench, Barbel.

Oils and Ointments useful in Angling.

TAKE oil of ivy-berries, anoint the inside of an oaken Box with it, and put three or four worms, or other living Baits into the Box, shutting it close; but keep them not there too long, lest the strength of the oil kill them, but take these out and put in more, and so they being sented with the oil, it will allure the fish the more readily to take them. This may be done in the same manner, for want of oil with gum-ivy, which is a tear that flows out of the ivy-stalks when slit, or wounded by piercing.

Oil of spike and dissolved gum-ivy, is held to be much attracting, the Bait being anointed with them.

Oil of Polypody of the oak, Venice Turpentine, and new honey is very good, if eight inches of the line next the hook be anointed with it, but then there must be two or three hairs, for it will not well stick to a single one; however, do not clog your line with it.

Chymical oil of Lavender, or for want of it, oil of spike six drops, three drams of assa-foetida,

foetida, Venice turpentine one dram, camphire one dram, mix these into an ointment, and anoint them as the former; this in clear water wonderfully takes Gudgeons

The fat of the thigh-bone of a heron, makes an ointment that rarely fails, and is esteemed by those that have tried it, the best of any, being a new experiment.

But let me commend to you above other this; take the oils of cammomil, lavender, anniseed, each a quarter of an ounce, heron's greese, and the best of assafoetida, each two drams, two scruples of cummin seed, finely beaten to powder, Venice turpentine, camphir and galbanum, of each a dram, add two grains of civet and make them into an unguent, this must be kept close in a glazed earthen pot, or it loses much of its virtue; anoint your line with it as before, and your expectation will be strangely answered.

Oil of asper so much noised about, and said to be extracted from a fowl call'd the Osprey, is now found to be a mixture of the oil of spike, lavender, and refined oil of turpentine, which however has a considerable effect in still, or slow moving waters; and observe in this case, your line must be anointed every second drawing up, or the strength of the scent being washed off, you may expect your sport to cease.

I shall

I might now speak something of artificial flies, and other artificial baits, but not to keep the angler too long from the water, I shall have occasion elsewhere to treat of them.

Fishes Haunts proper to be known.

IF you are not certain of any waters to fish in, your business is to try the most likely and promising, *viz.*

Where trees fallen, wood, rushes, weeds, or rubbish are in rivers, or likely large ponds, there are store of fish promised, for thither they resort for warmth and shelter; but it is very troublesome angling there.

The next are weirs, weir-pools, mill-streams, flood-gates, piles, posts, pillars of bridges, cataracts and water-falls, eddies, whirl-pits, the side of a stream, in the summer especially; for then they love to bask and lie shallow, unless the weather be excessive hot; tho' I may herein except Carp, Eels, and Tench in the winter, find for the generality the deep as the warmest, in a gentle ebb and flow, by the beating of the waters, at any turning or opposing bank, there is good biting, so that straight rivers are not so advantageous to angle in, as those that are winding

winding or crooked, having eddies, pits and pools in them, occasioned by the waters beating on the points and doublings; thence being forced back, and into those pits and creeks, the fish will get in some considerable numbers many times, where the water is narrow, try both sides: but to come somewhat nearer.

The Salmon is found in large swift rivers that ebb and flow, gravelly and craggy. The Trout mostly in purling brooks and rivers that are somewhat swift, and have sandy bottoms. The Carp and Tench love still waters, or such as gently move, where weeds or roots of trees are near to shelter them on occasion. Eels generally covet muddy rivers, ponds, or slimy sands, especially those of the larger size. The Pike, Bream, and Chub, are mostly found in sandy or clay rivers, brooks, or ponds, wherein bushes, bullrushes, or flags grow. The Barbel, Roach, Dace, and Ruff, for the most are found in sandy or gravelly deep rivers, coveting to be under the shade of trees. The Umber is likeliest to be found in marly or clay streams, running very swift. The Gudgeon likes best a sandy or gravelly bottom; yet for all this, a tryal of divers waters will not be amiss where you may suspect any fish are likely to breed; for experience in this art is the surest instructor.

Times proper above others to Angle in, according to the Water, Weather, &c.

IN the hottest months take your opportunity when it is cloudy, and the weather is moved by gentle gales.

II. When the floods have carried away the filth, sudden showers incumber the waters too, and the rivers, &c. retain their usual bounds, looking of a palish colour.

III. When a violent shower has muddled or troubled the water, and after that the stream runs swift, for then they usually seek for creeks and shelter, and in the little rivulets running into the great one.

IV. If you fish for Carp or Tench do it early in the morning, viz. a little before sunrise, till eight, and from four in the afternoon 'till sun-set, when the days are of a convenient length, June, July, and August, but in March, the beginning of April, and the end of September, they refuse not to bite in the warmth of the day, the wind being still.

V. If you angle for Salmon, the best time is from three in the afternoon 'till sun-set, and in the morning as before; his proper months are May, June, July, and August. The Barbel bites best in May, June, July, and the beginning of August, from five to eleven

eleven in the morning. The Pearch and Ruff all day in very cool and cloudy weather. The Bream bites from sun-rise, till nine or ten in the morning, in muddy water, especially when the wind blows hard, for the most part keeping in the middle of the river or pond in May, June, July, or August.

VI. The Pike bites in July, August, September and October, about three in the afternoon, in gentle water, and a clear gale. In Winter he bites all the day long, and in April, May, and the beginning of June, early in the morning and late in the evening. As for Roach and Dace, they bite all the day long, if the weather be not in the extremities of heat or cold on the top of the water. The Gudgeon bites best in April, and till he has spawned in May, and if the weather be cool, till wasp-time, and at the end of the year all day long in a gentle stream; observe when you angle for him, to stir and rake the ground, and he will bite the better. As for the Flounder though he is found only in ebbing and flowing rivers, that have communication with the sea, he bites freely all day in April, May, June, and July, in a swift stream; he will bite in the still, but not near so freely.

C

Ground

Ground Baits to gather and feed the Fish, that you may better and readily know where to find them, &c.

THE Ground-baits, or for baiting the ground, are barley or wheat soft boiled, which, for prevention of scattering, you may mix with some pleasant fresh earth, ale-grains, wheat-bran steeped in sheep's-blood, blood clotted, dried, and cut in small pieces, periwinkles bruised in their shells, black and white snails, worms cut asunder, and made up in little balls of earth. The guts of fowl, the small guts or livers cut small, old cheese and oat-cakes bruised together, malt grossly ground, these especially gather Tench, Dace, Carp, Chub, Roach, Bream and Barbel; and the more you feed them, they will be the surer to keep to that place, and be the fatter to reward your pains when taken, and these throw in a little above the place you angle at, if it be a moving water, for before they ground, the stream will carry them some distance from the place you throw at.

These are especially good when you angle with the cod-bait, gentle, wasp, or paste; for it will make them take your bait more eagerly, and with less suspicion. And this directs you to the Pike or Pearch, for if those
fish

fish you angle for be not there, and neither others have circumvented you, nor the season improper, then are these two devourers of fish lurking thereabouts; and the rest dare not approach for fear of being made a prey; therefore use suitable tackle and baits to take them, and then other fish will boldly approach.

When you angle in clear water, keep out of sight as much as may be, sheltered behind some bush or tree, or by standing as far off as possible, keep your eye only on the surface of the water, where your float is, and to effect this the better, your rod must be proportionable in length, to answer the place you fish at, and especially at the ground, and a long rod and line at artificial flies are very necessary. An angler must add silence to his patience, and move his body as little as possible may be, for the fish are very quick-sighted, and naturally fearful, particularly the Chub, Carp, and Trout.

When in a clear water you angle at the ground, or with a natural fly dibble, always do it going up the river, but in muddy water, or when you do it with a dib-fly, use the contrary; if you have hooked a fish, and suspect the strength of your line or rod, let him play and tire within the water, before you offer to bring him near the top; be sure to keep the rod bent, lest running to the

28 THE TRUE ART

end of the line, he breaks his hold, or the hook, and if he be tired, and have in a manner done flustering, bring him towards the top, and if there be occasion, use your landing-net or hook; and take this for a general rule in hooking all strong fish.

How to take the Salmon and Salmon-smelt by Angling, &c.

THE Salmon though not found in many rivers in England is of principal note for river fish, though it as well belongs to the sea. The chief rivers noted for them, are the Thames, Severn, Trent, Lon at Lancaster, and about Cockerland-Abby at Workington in Cumberland, Bywell in Northumberland, Durham, Newcastle on Tyne, Dee in Cheshire, and some rivers in Wales; as Usk, Wye, and Tivy; he commonly is found in the water deep, and about the middle. They spawn in September, and come in season the beginning of March.

His best biting is at nine in the forenoon, and three in the afternoon, in clear water, especially when the wind blows against the stream, but not very roughly; then take the baits directed, and the strongest tackle, for when he is struck he plunges and leaps, though

though not usually does he endeavour to go to the end of the line.

The younger sort of these are so tender-mouthed, that unless you fasten two hooks almost in a quarter of a circle asunder, they usually break hold. For the great Salmon, the principal bait is well-scoured dew-worms; for the Salmon-smelt, the brandling, gilt-tail, meadow-worm, &c. and for flies he takes them natural or artificial; and if you use these, a cod-bait or gentle at the top of the hook is effectual; this with the dub-fly takes Salmon-smelts beyond expectation; but for a greater Salmon, if your fly be artificial, make it very large, with six wings one behind another, that by that and the different colours, he may suppose it, as indeed it will appear in the water, a cluster of flies. He is taken at the ground with a running line or float, and sometimes he bites lower than mid-water at ground-baits; he is taken with oak-worms, dub-flies, cod-baits, clap-baits, and the larger sort sometimes take the minnow and loach, and for these you may angle with a wier-ring on the top of the rod, letting the line run through it to a great length, and when he is hooked, and is spent with plunging, fix your land-hook in his mouth, that is screwed to the end of a pole, as directed, to land him. Salmon is the best of fish, very sweet, and of

extraordinary nourishment: Eaten in moderation it restores in consumptions; if pickled it strengthens the stomach, and begets a good appetite.

Several Ways to take the Pike, and where to find his Haunts, &c.

THE Pike spawns in March; his usual haunts are in sandy, chalky, or clayey places, somewhat near the banks; for coveting solitude, he often lurks in holes to surprize other fish, as they fearlessly swim by; sometimes he shelters among bull-rushes, water-docks, weeds or bushes; and then he bites about the middle of the river or pond, at mid-water, and for him you must keep your bait in a gentle motion, and at all times to be above a foot from the ground; he rarely bites in the night, for then he is for the most part gone to rest in his retirement. In April, May, June, and the beginning of July, he does it most freely morning and evening in clear water, and a gentle gale in still water, or a moderate moving one, and in the rest of July, August, September, and October, his best biting time is about three in the afternoon in water as before: In winter months, if the weather be pleasing, and the

the water clear, he will not refuse to bite at any time, though the most certain time is about three of the clock in the afternoon, if particularly in a gloomy, cloudy day, but the water muddied with rain, there is no certainty of him; his beloved baits are Gudgeon, Roach, Dace, Minnows, Salmon-smelts no bigger than Gudgeons, a piece of an Eel, a young Trout, &c. but all his baits must be very fresh, and a live one tempts him much the sooner, which may be put on by drawing the line between the skin and the ribs of the fish, and so on the hook, fastning it in the gills, and this you may use in trowling, but here have your tackle very strong, with wire about a foot from your hook, that next to it silk, and the rest of the line strong spun flax; come as little as you can near the weeds, lest they spoil your bait before the Pike comes at it; fasten the tail of the bait to the joint of the wire, and having fixed your tackle that the line may run and play, let so much lead be at the hook as may carry the fish's head downwards, as if after playing on the top, she was going to the bottom, and when you have sunk it so, that it is at a convenient depth for the Pike, slack your line, and give it scope that he may run to his hold, and there pouch to swallow it, which you may know

32 THE TRUE ART

by the moving of the line in the water : then with a smart jerk hook him : Your rod must be about twelve or fourteen feet long, with rings on, and a brass winch with a strong silk line thirty yards long, and a swivle between the line and the hook. Some use no rod with this, but the lead and float, holding of the line in their hands on links, and indeed there are several methods taken, though all to the same purpose ; wherefore for brevity sake I omit them.

Angling for him at the snap, is to give him leave to run a little, and then strike, which must be done the contrary way to that which he moves, therefore a double spring-hook is useful in this way of angling especially, for a great Pike usually will hold the bait so fast in his teeth, that you may fail to pull it out of his mouth, and likewise strike him, when if he holds the spring-hook ever so fast, the wire will draw through the bait, and so the spring opening, you will frequently hook him on the outside of his mouth. Though trowling is surer than this, and more practicable, yet this is best used in March, when the Pike bites ill, then upon spawning they are sick, and lose their stomachs ; bait this as the former, and he may be taken this way when he is so. A Pike is more excellent than Carp. Sick people may eat it : the cross-bone in the head is good against falling-

falling-sickness; spawn or roe provokes vomiting and stool; the heart eaten cures fevers; they live two hundred years.

Other brief Rules for Pike Angling.

WHEN the Pike has taken your bait, observe how he moves; if slowly, give him time, and you will rarely miss him; let not your bait fall in one and the same place above once or twice, for if he takes it not, then he is farther off.

II. If you find after he has taken the bait, he lies still, as sometimes he will, move your hand gently, to give notice which way his head lies, lest in striking you happen to pull the bait out of his mouth, if that cannot be discerned, strike directly upwards: At the snap have strong tackle, and give two lusty jerks quickly, one after another, fastening a swivel at the end of your line, which must be used at trowl and snap, and your armed wire must be hooked on it.

III. For the snap, have a hallow piece of lead, that it may pass over the wire and end of the hook, which you draw within the fish's gill or mouth, that as directed, it may keep the head downward, and at either of these baitings, if you cut away one of the fins of the bait close at the gills, also behind

34 THE TRUE ART

the vent, and one on the contrary side, it will play the better, and seem more lively.

IV. Be sure to raise your hand in casting, when the bait is about to fall into the water, so that by dashing, it may not fright him away, and when it is sunk a little, draw it near the top towards you a little, and so let it fall again; and if your wire-hook is joined with a steel ring, the bait will play better, and sink more direct: For snap, March is the chief month, February, April, May, September, and October for the trowl; and though a large bait invites him most, yet a lesser takes him more surely, but let your bait be suitable to your hook; and this way with a Minow, Loach, or small Gudgeon, you may take Pearch; and if possible, always trowl in clear water in a windy day, and then a Gudgeon, will do well for the Pike; but if a dark cloudy day, Roach, Dace, or Bleak, are to be preferred.

To snare a Pike: when you perceive him rise, and staying near the surface of the water, fasten about a yard and a half of strong packthread to a pole, and at the end of it a running noose of small wire, softly putting it over his head, with a quick jerk throw him to land; this is often done to young Pikes, but the old ones are more wary, though sometimes caught by this means, especially in ponds, and also when they come
out

of rivers, and go a frogging in ditches in March, April, and May.

To Angle for Pearch.

THE Pearch spawns the beginning of March, and delights in a good stream of a moderate depth, abiding usually close by a hollow bank, pebbly, gravelly bottomed, with green weeds growing in it, being commonly a river fish; he bites little in winter, but in the middle of the day, yet in summer all day, if the weather be cool and cloudy, and the water shaken with the wind; but more freely from seven till ten in the morning, and from two in the afternoon till six, and sometimes till sun-set; if in the middle of summer, you must look to him when he is struck, for he is a very strong fish, and will struggle hard and long; they generally go many together, and if there be a great many in a hole, if you light right on them, you may at one standing, catch the greater part, if you give them time to bite; for if you are too hasty in striking, you may chance to miss your aim; he takes almost all manner of worms, as dew-worms, red-worms, meadow-worms, cod-bait, also the Minow, Loach, small frogs, wasps, hornets, and humble-bees.

He

36 THE TRUE ART

He is best taken with a float, resting the bait about six inches from the ground, and sometimes he is taken about mid-water: Some use a ledger-bait on the ground, but the first depth has usually the best success.

To Angle for Carp, &c.

THIS Fish has always been in great esteem, making many industrious to find ways to take him. He delights in sandy or muddy bottoms, in still deep water, and in green, or grass growing under water, by the sides of a pond or river, though in a good pond he thrives best. He is very wary, and hard to be caught. His first spawning time is about May-day, breeding three times a year, and wonderfully encreases if he likes the water he is in: He lives long, though most disagree as to the particular number of years; and indeed I see no reason how that should be exactly known.

He bites very early in April, May, June, July, and August, and sometimes all night if the weather be hot and star-light: in the still deep water, if you angle in the day-time, keep out of sight as much as may be, therefore provide a long rod. He is very strong, and must play when struck, or he will

will carry off your hook by breaking the line or rod.

Use always the float and quill, angle for him sometimes above, and sometimes below mid-water, as the weather is, though in mid-water he is oftener taken, especially in a pond, but in rivers he is very shy: Lay a ground-bait for him with ground malt.

The baits you use on your hook must be gentles, two or three on the hook; your hook must be strong, with gutt at bottom, the hook not too large; he takes likewise bobs, wasps, sweet pastes, marsh-worms, flag-worms, gilt-tails, dew-worms, the cod-bait and bread-grain boiled soft; and in June and July, in the heat of the day, he shews himself on the top of the water, and often among weeds, when you may take him with a well-scoured lob-worm, angling as with a natural fly; but in this case keep out of his sight as much as you can. A Carp is a numerous breeder, as spawning three or four times a year; therefore as a caution to those that stock ponds with them, let them be warm, and secure from cold winds, fenced by trees, and the place allowing good feed, for otherwise (the pond being over-stored) they will starve themselves and other fish that are with them.

Carp is a fat and sweet fish, and nourishes much.

Observe

*Observations on the Tench, and the best way to
Angle for him.*

THE Tench spawns the beginning of July, is reckoned a very good fish, much coveted, yet delights in muddy or foul water, and among weeds; the ponds that are suitable for Carp please him better than the rivers, and in pits he thrives better than in either, if they be agreeable to time, though in some pits they will not (notwithstanding they breed) come to any bigness; and in others they will not breed at all, but they will thrive wonderfully, beyond expectation: This I believe may happen, where the storer is not skilful to distinguish males from females, but by an unlucky guess puts in all of one sort. Though he covets mudd, yet his fins are very large; and to know him from others, there are two little barbs at the angles or corners of his mouth, his scales are small and smooth, and about his eyes are circles of a golden colour. He is accounted the physician to the rest, so that the devouring Pike, being sick, is cured by him, and will not, unless hunger provoke, hurt or destroy him, though he spares not his own kind. This gift of healing is said to be by a medicinal balm sweating from his skin,

skin, which the sick fish take in as physick; and indeed, his flesh is good in consumptions (or any languishing of the parts) for men. They bite best from day-light to eight in the morning, and from four in the afternoon till sun-set; but in the hot months, if the weather be not tempestuous, they many times bite all night. The best season is from the beginning of May to the end of September.

He takes the cod-bait, marsh-worm; gentle, brandling-worms, flag-worm or red-worm well scoured; and to make it take the better, you may dip your bait in a little tar-water just before you use it, though the plain bait many times pleases him well. For want of the former baits, you may use pastes sweetened with honey.

Angle for him with a float of quill, letting the bait into the water two feet, sometimes more or less, but no great matter. Your hook must not be too large.

The Bream's Haunts, and how to Angle for them.

THE Bream spawns the beginning of July, is a large, but bony fish; is found in rivers and ponds, but in the latter if convenient,

venient, he delights most : He is long growing, and will be very fat, and is almost as great a breeder as the Carp.

Breams swim divers together in a gentle stream, loving a sandy, or clayish bottom, and the deepest and broadest part of the water. Your best time in the season is to angle for him from sun-rise to eight o'clock, in a moderate stream, the water being a little slimy or muddy, especially when a good breeze troubles the water ; and in windy weather, if in a pond, he generally keeps the middle, and there you are most likely to find him. In the afternoon, your time is from three or four till sun-set ; but in a darkish windy day he bites at any time.

He is angled for with much success from the beginning of April till Michaelmas, and may be taken at other times, except the very cold months.

He takes as baits, flag-worms, gentles, grass-hoppers, their legs being off, red-worms, gilt-tails, and meadow-worms well scoured, bobs, and under water-flies, especially the green ones ; when he bites, he runs off with the bait to the further shore, or as far that way as he can, and therefore you must give him play, for though he seems a fish made strong enough, he will not much struggle, but after two or three turns he falls on one side, and may be easily landed.

Here

OF ANGLING.

41

Here you must angle with a float, so that the bait may touch the ground; you may make a ground-bait for Bream with malt, and it will draw them together. Dont use too large a hook, only strong.

The Barbel, how to find and take him by Angling.

THE Barbel spawns in April, sometimes in May, is a very strong fish, and takes his name from the barbs that hang at his mouth, is curiously shaped with small scales. In the hot months you will find him in the swift strong streams, though he shuns the current, and delights somewhat more out of the rapidity, under shades of trees, and weeds, where they rout in the sands like a hog, and so nest; some suppose him to eat much gravel and sand, but I rather fancy he seeks for Insects, or other food, that heat and moisture produce in the bottom of shallows, yet sometimes he is found in the deep and swift waters, especially at weirs, bridges, or floodgates, where he shelters among piles, or on hollow places, holding by the moss or weeds, to prevent his being carried away by the stream; when winter is coming on he retires to the still deep

His

His best biting time is early in the morning, that is, from the sun-rising till ten, and from four till the sun sets, and often later, and this principally happens from the 20th of May to the latter end of August; you must be wary in taking of him, for he is very subtle, and struggles long, unless well managed; many are found together frequently, but in April they are little worth, for then is the spawning time.

As for the baits you intend to take him with, care must be taken that they are very sweet, such as give him no distaste: Angle for him with a running-line, and a bullet at the end. He takes gentles, not over-scoured, dew-worms, new cheese, paste, the young brood of wasps and hornets, with tallow-chandler's graves well soaked; and so cunning he is, that you will be cheated of many a bait in angling for him, if you have not a watchful eye, and a quick hand, for he will nibble and suck it off, and ten to one, when your float sinks, and you attempt to strike, whether he has the hook in his mouth, yet often if you strike the contrary way his head lies, you may take him by the nose, and give him play till he is tired, or else, if he be any thing large, unless your tackle be very strong, part of it goes with him. He is not an over-pleasant fish to eat, by reason he is somewhat dry, and very full
of

of bones. Some say he is easy of concoction, his eggs and spawn vomit and purge violently. Your hook must be very strong, with twisted gutt at bottom, and to have a brass winch and strong silk line, as for Pike.

The Trout's Haunts: The best Way to Angle for him, and his baits.

THE Trout spawns in October: His usual haunts are in small purling brooks, or swift gliding rivers, not too great. Observe whether their bottoms are pebble, gravel, or smooth stones; for on the sides of these he usually has his residence, though he is often found in the deep, especially a large one, also behind banks, blocks, stones, at turnings or points, where the stream much beats, or makes a kind of whirling; he loves coverture and shade, from whence he may most easily seize his prey, but his hold or hole is usually in deep places; he is seldom found among weeds, rather among boughs of trees that hang in the water, or shady bushes: He plies in spring at the tail of the stream, but, as many other fish do about the middle of May, at the upper end, staying long in a place, if his hold be near it. In the hot weather he leaves the deep, and goes into the sharp

sharp streams among gravel, unless by the excessive heat of the weather, droughts ensue, and then the still deep delights him.

This Trout may be taken by dibbing, or if the weather be dark, cloudy, and windy, you may take him with the cast-fly. He is in season from March untill Michaelmas, but chiefly about the end of May, when he is in the best season, his body is adorned with red spots. The female is counted better than the male: They much affect to be near the source or spring of rivers, and where they run on lime-stones, there the best of Trouts are found.

Angle for him at the ground with a running line, with two or three small pellets of lead, omitting the float, or you may take him by float-angling at the ground, if you are dexterous at angling with a single hair, two links from your hook, he is much sooner taken than with two or three hairs, though you must be cautious he breaks not the line; and this is better done at the bottom than the top, because there he has not so much force to shoot and spring, as on the top, and a single hair next the hook, if well chosen and strong, will take one of 13 inches, if there be water-room, free from wood and weeds.

He bites best in a water that after a flood is clearing, or rising, somewhat troubled, cloudy and windy weather; early in the morning

morning is the best time from the middle of April to the end of August, from sun-rising till near eleven, and from two till sun-set; but at nine in the morning, and three in the afternoon, are the best times at the ground or fly, as the water is most agreeable, in March, the beginning of April, September, and till the 15th of October, and then you must cease angling for the Trout to the end of February; after a shower has fallen in the evening, you will find him rise at a gnat. In warm weather you may dib for him with a Minow or Loach.

As for other baits than what I have mentioned, the principal are at the ground, brandlings, gilt-tails, tag-tails, meadow-worms; and for the greater, dew-worms well scoured, the two first hold him all the season, either in muddy or clear waters, the rest do well when the water is discoloured with rain; you may use a cod-bait, either for top or bottom, but then it must be in clear water; he takes the palmer-fly or wool-bed, and all sorts of artificial and natural flies at the top of the water. When you bait with small fish, as the Minow, Bull-head, and Loach, cut off their fins, and the gills of the latter, and so with these instructions, and a little practice to ripen experience, depend on success. When you fish for Trout with a worm, you must have a large hook with a gut or grass. The Trout is a very large mouthed fish.

The

*The Eel, the Haunt, Bait, and taking them,
&c.*

THERE are many disputes about the generation of Eels, whether they generate and breed as other fish do, or proceed from mud and putrefaction, enlivened by heat and moisture; but my business being to instruct you how to come by them, I shall lay no stress on that nicety, since Eels there are, and for their delicacy are called by some, *The Queen of Fish.*

His haunts, in the day-time, are usually under the covert of tree-roots, brushwood, planks, or piles, about flood-gates, weirs, or mill-dams, in hollow holes in banks, they mostly delight in foul still water, or at least such as run very slow, with ousy sand, or muddy bottoms, in pits, ponds, and meers.

Bait for him with a young Lamprey, dew-worms, scoured earth-worms, any very small fish, their fins cut off, guts of chickens, or other fowls, cut in small lengths, lean beef, the brood of wasps; the four first take him day or night, but most of the rest are properest for night-hooks.

Take him in the day by a ledger-bait, by snigling, bobbing, and brogling; as for brogling and snigling, the best method I
have

have known is this, get a long and strong line, your hook of a small compass, baited with scoured red-worms, or dew-worms, having one end of your line in your hand, place very easily the upper end of your hook in the cleft of a hazel-rod of a convenient length, so that it may slip out as you please, and where you fancy the Eel to be, let the bait leisurely sink, and supposing it swallowed by given time, leisurely draw him up by little and little, easy lying double, with the strength of his tail, your line is endangered. This you must practice in hot weather, the waters being low.

As for bobbing, take large earth-worms out of good mold, scour them well in moss, and run a strong thread with a needle through them endways, as many as will lightly wrap a dozen times round your hand, make them into links, and fasten them to a strong pack-thread or whipcord, two yards long or more; make a knot about six or eight inches from the worms, put about three quarters of a pound of plummet, made pyramidically on the cord, by the means of a hollowness or hole bored through it, and let it sink to the knot, fix the cord to a manageable pole. Angle with this in muddy or cloudy water, in the sides of the streams or deeps; when the Eel or Eels tug, let them be well fastened

48 THE TRUE ART

tened by the teeth before you draw them up, then do it gently till on the top, and then hoist them quickly to land: Many by this way have been taken at a time.

Some, near Eels haunts, sink a bottle of hay loosely bound, stufed with fowls guts and liver, cut in long shreds over-night, and coming early the next morning, drawing it up hastily by the rope, fastened to the band, find large Eels bedded in it, for the sake of the prey. This may be done with a bundle of brush-wood, out of which, upon pulling up, they cannot so easily get.

To Angle, &c. for the Grayling or Umber.

THOUGH this fish has two names given it, the former for the lesser sort, and the latter for the greater, yet both are the same species.

Their haunts are in marly clay; clear water, and swift streams, the large is accounted eighteen inches, being in season all the year, but their prime is in December, when his gills and head are blackish, and his belly a dark grey, studded with black spots. He will bite freely, but is very tender mouthed, therefore be careful he breaks not his hold, though he will not struggle much,

much, as being very faint when he is hooked. Angle for him in or near the middle of the water, for he is always more apt to rise than descend, wherefore he is chiefly taken by a ground-bait, rather than a running-line; use for him a float of cork, if you particularly angle for him, but for a Grayling and Trout, the running line is best.

As for baits, he takes brandlings, gilt-tails, meadow-worms, tag-tails, the bark-worm, flag-worm, cod-bait, natural or artificial flies, particularly the camlet-fly, and a fly made of purple wool, and one made of tawny camlet hair, also the earth-bob, and clap-bait. Your hook must not be too large, rather small, he not being so large a mouthed fish as the Trout.

The Pope or Ruff, his Haunts, how to angle for him with proper Baits, &c.

THE Pope or Ruff is one in shape, nature, and disposition, like the Pearch; tho' in bigness not exceeding a large Gudgeon, but of a more pleasing taste; he bites eagerly, and many of them are usually together where the water runs slowly and is deep; in sandy places fifty of them have been taken at a standing. You may bait for him with

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the small red-worm, gilt-tail, meadow-worm, and other baits proper for the Pearch, he biting at the same time the Pearch does; you may ground bait with new turned-up earth of a fallow, also with a clear sand, you may take him with a single hair, the link next the hook; the body of it is rough, and hath prickly and sharp fins; it has its seasons and nature like the Pearch, and is a very wholesome fish, eating short and tender.

There are abundance of them to be killed in Moulsea river in Surry. Your hook to be rather small and strong; very often they are found with Pearch.

Some particular Observations on Gudgeon Angling.

THE Gudgeon, though not over large, is approved among other fish as a dainty, being very wholesome food. This fish spawns twice or thrice in the year, he delights in sharp streams, with gravely or sandy bottoms, and shews the young angler extraordinary good sport, who not being well skilled in chusing, or not well knowing how to come by other baits, may take him with a small red-worm on the ground, or very near it, and seldom, by reason of the toughness

ness of his mouth, is he lost when struck. In the heat of summer they make to the shallows in rivers, but when the weeds in autumn grow of a bad taste, or rot, and cold weather comes on, then they get together in deep places; and here it is properest to fish for them at the ground, or a little above it, if you fish with a float; but it may be done with a running line on the ground, without a float. As for particular baits, I have already discoursed of them, and among others, those relating to the Gudgeon. Fish with a small hook.

The Bleak or Bley, to Angle for him, &c.

THIS fish makes sport, though not much valued, not being very wholesome; it is many times destroyed by a worm that breeds in his stomach; in hot weather he bites eagerly, and you may fish for him with several hooks on one line, and if you catch three or four together on the several hooks, do not fear the breaking of your line, tying them about half a foot one above the other; he is easily taken with gentles, small red-worms, and any small flies at the top of the water, by dibbing or whipping for them.

52 THE TRUE ART

Angle at middle water, or at the top, for he is usually in motion : There is another sort of these, called the Black Sea, better and wholsomer than this, called by some the Sea Camelion, because in the winter he seems often to change his colour. He is as good as any Carp. You must use very small hooks on single hairs.

The Chub or Chevin, his Haunts and where to Angle for him.

THE Chub spawns in March, is large, though timorous; is found in large rivers, having sandy or clayey bottoms, delights much in streams shaded with trees, as also in holes, where many of them consort together: He is in season from the middle of May until Candlemas; you may take him dibbing on the top of the water, but in the hot months he keeps mid-water; in the colder weather angle at the bottom with the ledger-bait.

He bites from sun-rising until eight, and from three till sun-set; the large one when struck, is soonest tired, the less will struggle longer, and in sun-shiny weather they bite in winter the middle of the day.

He

He scarcely refuses any bait, if not too large; as lamprey's-pride, the Eel's brood, dew-worms, large red-worms scoured in moss and gravel, clap-baits, small snails, white and black cheese paste, the marrow of an ox or cow's back, a beetle with the legs off, and all sorts of baits bred on trees, plants and herbs, cod-baits, broods of wasps, hornets and humble bees, the fat of ruddy bacon, dours and grass-hoppers; also a fly, a cod-bait, and an oak-worm on the hook together, infallibly takes him in the hot months.

When he is taken, he must be eaten the same day, or he is little worth; most esteem his head the best part: He is a coarse boney fish, the shape almost of a Carp. You must use a strong hook with gutt at bottom.

*Dace or Date, and Roach, their Haunts, Baits,
&c. and how to Angle for them.*

AS these delight in ponds or rivers with gravelly bottoms or sand, so they love deep clear waters, shaded with trees, either in rivers or elsewhere: The Dace spawns about the middle of March, and are in season three weeks after. The flesh is soft, and sweet in taste.

54 THE TRUE ART

You must angle for the Dace within two inches of the bottom, and sometimes the bait may touch it, if it is worms, but if with flies, at the top of the water, or within an inch.

The Roach spawns about the middle of May, and is so healthful, that his soundness has created a common saying, though it often causes some to tell lies. The best Roach, by reason of the abundance of soil, are found in the Thames near London. Angle for him about two foot in the water: In temperate weather they bite all day long. The float angle takes them best.

Their baits are numerous as their fry, *viz.* Worms bred on trees, plants, or herbs, gentles, cod-baits, grass-hoppers with the legs off, flies artificial or natural, particularly the ant-fly, meadow-worms scoured, bread-corn boiled. The Roach in ponds is chiefly found under the water-docks, if there be any, and indeed few small come amiss to them.

The Flounder or Flook's Haunts, Baits, and Angling.

IT is properly a salt-water fish, and is nowhere but in rivers that have communication with the sea; he is brought up first by the tide,

tide, and loosing himself into fresh streams,
 he after some time minds not his way back
 again. He loves gentle streams, gravelly and
 sandy bottoms, is very shy, and not easily
 taken: He bites all the day in May, June,
 July, and the beginning of August, though
 he will nibble much about the hook, and
 suck off the bait, if you be not wary to keep
 it in motion, which hinders him from seeing
 the hook, if he does, away he flies from it,
 sometimes into the shallow. He takes scoured
 meadow or marsh-worms, earth-worms, gen-
 tles, the brood of wasps, gilt-tails and brand-
 lings. He is to be angled for with the float,
 and your bait must touch the ground. He
 is of good nourishment, strengthens the sto-
 mach, causes appetite, and helps the spleen.

To take the Smelt with an Angle.

AS this fish generally lies at the tail of
 ships, or in brooks, so you fish for him at
 half-tide, with a gentle. The first you
 catch cut in small pieces about the bigness
 of a gentle, bait your hook with them, and
 you will find sport to admiration.

The Minow or Perch, Loach, and Bull-head or Miller's-thumb, Lampreys.

AS they are rather baits for other fish than valuable in themselves, so the first is taken with small worms, brandlings, and gilt-tails; the two latter with gilt-tails and meadow-worms, at the ground. Lampreys are taken as the Eel, being much of that nature, therefore I avoid enlarging thereon.

Minows feed by licking one another; the Loach is good for women with child, and are all very nourishing.

Observations on, and Rules for Natural Fly Angling.

IT is a nice point in angling, requiring a quick or sharp eye, and wary hand; it is termed by artists, dibbling, dipping, or daping, and is performed on the surface of the water, or at most sometimes not letting the bait sink above two or three inches under, nor that, unless the oak-fly for the Chub or Trout has joined to it a clap-bait or cod-bait.

This must ever be done in clear water, without lead or float, in the evening of a hot day, but in a hot calm day is best, and the
still

still deep is to be preferred before the stream; though on the side of a stream when the water is clearing after great rains or a flood, is very proper; and all hours you may dib with the green drake-fly, but if you needs must do it in the stream, use the stone-fly, which is proper early or late; if it be windy in the evening, take the artificial stone-fly, which I will teach you to make, for then in the stream the fish rise best, and are the soonest taken, and if you pull off the wings, you may angle in the water with it; it will also take very much in a stream near the bottom, but you must take care to keep out of sight as much as possible, and keep your fly in motion, that it may appear to the fish to be alive.

In dibbing for Dace, Roach, or Chub, let not your motion be swift, if you can perceive any of them coming towards it, but make two or three short removes, as if they were alive, or the fly were swimming or playing; then let it gently glide with the stream, if possible, towards the fish; but if it be slow or standing water, you must keep it moving with your hand, not just upon him, but sideways and sloping by him, lest it should escape him, it will make him mind it the more; for only the Trout, if it be moved swiftly, will of any certainly follow it.

58 THE TRUE ART

In a calm, dibbing is not so safe as when a pretty good gale stirs the water, for then neither you nor the deceit put on the fish by an artificial fly is so easily discovered; and then few natural flies can lie at liberty on the water; but for want of choice they will snap at the first that comes in their way, biting more eagerly through hunger. If they will not rise at the top, try them a little lower, for some will be sooner taken, as the Roach particularly, by dibbing under water than at the top. Roach, Dace, and Chub will sometimes be pleased with an artificial fly, especially if an earth-bob, cod-bait, earth-worm, or gentle be put on the point of the hook; or an oak-worm is very pleasing on the top or under the water.

At dibbing and trailing, Trout and Salmon-smelts will take an artificial fly well, particularly the stone-fly and green-drake, early or late in the evening. And if you fish for Salmon-smelt, Roach, Chub or Dace, with the dub-fly, put on a gentle, wasp, cod-bait, or clap-bait; let it stand well on the point of your hook when the wind furls the waters, and few flies appear on or over it. This is the best time to angle with the fly, either natural or artificial; for having no variety or choice, they will quickly take your bait. If it be a sun-shiny day, get
under

under the shades of trees if you can, that neither your shadow nor that of your rod may appear, and so fright them away. If you find the fish rise not towards the top, sink your fly by degrees, and try even to middle-water, for before the sorts of flies are naturally in season, the fish very rarely rise at them; wherefore to know this, that you mistake not in your baiting, observe what flies are on the water, or flying near over it, or are on the bushes or trees near ponds or rivers, and that fly which swarms there most is chief in season, and is to be used either natural, or to be imitated by art. Some open the first fish they take, and look in its stomach to see what indigested food there remains, and from thence do take their measures, though uncertain; for either it must be partly consumed, or so discoloured, that it cannot well be known; besides, fish for extream hunger take in such food at one time, as at another they altogether dislike.

You may for other baits found in rivers, grope in the sandy bank-sides within the water, under the stones, or observe what insects are playing or swimming in, or on the surface of the water, and accordingly provide yourself seasonable baits. In May you may dib with oak-flies, fern-flies, or oak-worms for Trout, and all summer with
the

60 THE TRUE ART

the fern-fly for Chub, keeping the bait moving on the top of the water, as if it were alive, and yourself out of sight as much as possible.

Artificial-Fly Angling.

ARTIFICIAL dub-fly or cast-fly angling is somewhat more difficult, and requireth more cunning than the former, being more readily learned by seeing it done, than by printed directions; however, I doubt not but to give a satisfactory account of it to the angler.

The first thing to be materially considered is, to know and chuse the proper colours of flies in season when you angle, and these must be proportioned to the places you fish in, for there are different haunts of flies, and are found much earlier in some places than in others, as the season proves hot or cold; a warm spring brings them early, but the contrary later sometimes by a month, and always sooner in high grounds than in those that are low, marshy, or boggy.

And though sometimes upon disgust, fish suddenly change their fly, yet it is not usual until they have been glutted with one sort, which must be some time first, and when that
sort

sort of fly is near going out; nor will they freely take them till they are at the best, and most plentiful: And it always follows, when one sort goes out another comes in, which you must have a special regard to observe, and make the change with them.

The fly required being got, your next business, is to make one in colour, shape, proportion of body and wings as like as possible, always having the natural one as a pattern: And to do this you must have in readiness bear's hair of divers colours, camel's hair sad light, and of a middle indifferent colour, badger's hair, spaniel's hair, sheep's wool, dog's hair, hog-down, as is combed from the roots and bristles of a hog, camblets and mohairs of divers colours, cow's hair, abortive calves and colt's hair, furs of squirrels tails, the tails of black cats, yellow and dun cats, down of hare's neck, the fern-coloured ferrets fur, martin's yellow fur, filmer's fur, tails of white weasels, moles, black rabbits, down of a fox's cub, ash-colour at the roots of fox, fur that comes off the otter and otter-cub, blackish and brown badger's hair that has been in a Skinner's lime-pit, hackles or feathers about a cock or capon's neck, and such as hang loosely down each side the tail, of various colours, particularly to make the palmer-fly
or

62 THE TRUE ART .

or insect called the wool-bed : You must have feathers of all sorts of fowl, and those coloured ones required that you cannot get natural you must dye.

You must likewise have caddows or blankets, from which are got dubbings, or soft cushions made of skins of abortive calves and colts, like silver-wire, gold-twist, silver-twist, white and yellow bees-wax for ground work, or to frame the bodies and heads on, as the nature of the fly more or less requires it, and a neat pair of sharp pointed scissars, to trim and shape the work with.

How to make the Dub-Fly.

WET your materials to know how they will hold colour, for though dry, they may appear of the right colour, but may alter being wetted, and consequently be too light or too dark. This done, take the hook in your left hand, betwixt your fore-finger and thumb, the shanks back upwards, and strong silk of that colour the fly requires, wax it with wax of the same colour, then draw it to the head of the shank betwixt your finger and thumb, and whip it about the bare hook two or three times ; draw your line between
your

your thumb and finger, holding the hook so fast, that it may only have a space to pass by; so joining the hook and line, put on the wings, fashion the body and head, by twisting the dubbing on your waxed silk, and lapping it on, then work it by degrees toward the head, and part the wings of an even length, or the fly will not swim upright; then turn it into a proper shape, by nipping off the superfluous dubbing from the silk, so fasten and accoutre the fly. It would be convenient to see one done by an experienced angler, and then these directions will be easy to you.

Directions relating to Dub-Flies, and Angling with them.

WHEN you proportion your dub-fly, consider the largeness or smallness of the fish you intend it for, and be sure the belly of it is of the exact colour, because that is most obvious.

II. Let the tail of the fly be only to the bend of the hook, and not come unto the bent of it.

III. If the Trout at the top of the water refuse it, the day is not proper for it, or the fly is either out of season or ill made.

When

When you angle with the dub-fly, it must be in such a river or water as is clear, after rain, or in a river a little discoloured with moss or bogs, in moorish places, or else in a cloudy or gloomy day, when the water is stirred by gentle gales; or if the winds be pretty high, they will rise in the plain deep, but in little wind, the best is to angle in the stream.

Keep your fly in continual motion in all weathers, to prevent the fish from discerning the fraud; in clear and low water, let the body of the fly be the smaller, and the wings very slender. In dark weather and thick water, let the fly be of a darkish colour, but it must be pretty large, body and wings, the better to be discovered; in a clear day a light-coloured fly is preferable.

A rod for the dub-fly should be five yards at least, and the line about seven, or somewhat more, if the water be free from incumbrance of weeds, &c. and to adapt your fly to the colour of the water more properly, have three of the sort, the one light, the next a degree darker, and the third the true colour of the natural fly, by trying all which you may gain the more experience; for one of them cannot well miss. In flow rivers, muddy and slimy bottomed, in great droughts expect little success, but rather chuse pebbly, sandy, or stony bottoms, in a
running

running stream, which much cools and refreshes the fish in the hot months.

Let your eye be steady on what you are about, and your hand ready to strike when it is convenient, which is with the rising of the fish, or he finding his mistake, will throw out the hook again: But for a great fish, I must hold it proper to let him turn his head with the bait, which will less strain your tackle, for so he will strike himself, and then do it moderately.

Upon casting, do it with a little circling about your head, by waving the rod, or else the fly may with too smart a jerk be apt to snap off; cast the fly behind a Trout at his rising, and so with a gentle hand, draw it over his head, so that not scaring him, he will quickly take it, if it be the right colour.

In casting, observe to do it always before you, that it may fall on the water, and no part of the line dash, to scare away the fish, and do it if you can without making any circle in the water; but if the winds be high, some part must be in the water, to keep the fly from being blown out. Take your standing so, if possible, that the sun may be in your face, and the wind to your back.

In still or low water, cast your fly almost a-cross the river or pond, and draw it towards

66 THE TRUE ART

wards you gently a little way, that you break not the water, or put it in trouble, and let it bear with the current, if there be any, fishing downwards and not upwards of the river. Thus having, as I hope, given plain instructions in these matters, to be understood by easy capacities, I proceed to describe artificial flies, and the proper months of angling with them.

Artificial Flies, proper in the Months of the fishing Season, how to make them.

IN February, the palmer-fly or plain hackle must have a rough black body, which may be done with black spaniel's hair, or the whirl of an ostridge feather, and the red hackle of a capon all over.

The prince dun, that may be dubbed of a fox cub, with ash-couloured silk, the wings of a stare's feather; this must be made little.

The little red brown, dub with the soft hair on the black spot of a hog's ear, the wings of mallard's feathers, near the white, wrap it on with red silk.

March. The green-tail may be made of the brown hair of a spaniel, taken from the outside of the ear, and a little from the extremity of the tail.

Morish

Morish brown may be dubbed with black sheep's wool, red silk, and the wings made of a partridge's wing-feather.

Thorn-tree fly, dub of a very good black, mix a little Isabella coloured mohair; with it make a little body, and the wings of a mallard's brightest feathers.

The early bright brown make of the hair of a brown spaniel, that of the flank of a red cow, and wing it with the grey feather of a wild duck.

April. The violet-fly, which takes excellently from the sixth to the tenth, is made of bear's hair of a light dun, mixed with violet stuff, wing it with the greasy feathers of a mallard: the horse-flesh-fly, which lasts all this month, dub with pink colours, blue mohair, and red tammy, let the head be a dark brown, and the wings of a light colour.

The small bright brown is very well taken in a clear day and water, make it of spaniel's fur, with a light grey wing.

May. The green drake, an excellent killer, dub on a large hook with camel's hair, bright bear's hair, soft down combed from the bristles of a hog, mix yellow camlet; let the body be long, and rib it with green silk mixed with yellow; let the whisks of his tail be the long hair of fables, his wings the light grey feather of a mallard dyed yellow.

The stone-fly, dub with dun bear's hair,
mix

68 THE TRUE ART

mix it with a little brown and yellow camlet, that she may be yellower on the belly and tail than in any other part, to be the better liked by the fish, who mostly eye the belly of baits ; and to adorn it the more, place two or three hairs of the beard of a black cat on the top of the hook, in the whipping or arming, and in warping on your dubbing, staring one from another something upright: rib her with yellow silk ; make the wings long and large, of the dark grey feather of a mallard, or other such-like feather.

The grey drake comes in when the great one goes out, much of shape with it, but in colour differs, and must be made of a paler and more blewish yellow and green, his ribs quite down his body must be of black, with black shining wings very thin, and may be made of the grey feathers of a mallard, the down under hogs bristles, the black hair of a spaniel, the wisks of his tail, and the beard of a black cat.

June. The ant fly is dubbed with brown and red camlet, the wing of the feathers of a light grey pidgeon.

The purple-fly, with purple wool mixed with light-brown bear's hair, the wings of a stare's feather, dub it with purple silk.

The brown hackle is made of the lightest brown hair of a somewhat grown colt, with a red hackle or cocks neck-feather over it,
wrapped

wrapped with hair-colour or ash-coloured silk.

July. Orange-fly; dub this with orange coloured cruel or wool, and the feather of a black-bird's wing.

The wasp-fly. Do this with brown dubbing, or else of the hair of a black cat's-tail; rib it with yellow silk, and make the wings of the grey feather of a mallard's wing.

The blue dun must be made with the down of a watermouse, and the blewish dun found on an old fox; mix them well together, and dub with sad ash-coloured silk; the feathers of a stare's quill will furnish you with wings.

August. The late ant-fly may be dubbed with the hair of a cow that is of a blackish brown, and for the tagging of the tails wrap in some red, and make the wing of a dark feather: this fly takes admirably.

The fern-fly must properly be dubbed with the wool taken from a hare's neck of the colour of fern when dry, make the wings of the darkish grey feather of a mallard.

The hearth-fly, dub of the wool of an aged black ewe, with some grey hair to accommodate the body and head; dub with black silk, and take the light feather of a stare for the wings.

September. The little blue dun made of the fur of a water-mouse, dub it with sad ash-coloured

70 THE TRUE ART

coloured filk, and wing it with the feather of a blue pidgeon.

The late badger. Do this with badgers hair that is black, whip with red filk, and use a darkish grey mallard's feather for the wings.

The camel-broom-fly, pull out for dubbing, the hair in the lime of an old wall, whip it with red filk, make the wings of a stare's lightest feather.

October. This month is supplied by the flies of the former, for all being now upon their going away, almost any will do; and thus reader, keeping to my intended brevity, having picked you out the best killing flies from a great many more, you by knowing how to make these may easily imitate all others, having a natural fly before you, and chusing materials suitable to its colour, by shaping her according to the other; then promise yourself success in angling with her as directed.

Thus I have given the best directions I could relating to artificial flies, but those who do not care to trouble themselves with making them, may have of all sorts very well made at Mr. Onesimus Ustonson's, in Bell-Yard, Temple-Bar.

Various,

Various, but very curious Observations in Angling; divers Ways to Angle, not commonly known.

NOTE, that sometimes all sorts of fish take baits at the ground, when but some sorts will take the fly at the top of the water; and therefore to angle for a Trout with a worm, chuse the running line without any float, only small plummets in their proper places. This is successful at the ground, either in clear or muddy water.

As for the latter, use a line a little more than half the length of the rod, and some-times less than that length, and the lowermost links must be at least three hairs, and one at top of four, whereof have a water-noose or loop to put it to another link of four hairs having also a loop or water-noose at its bottom; so proceed with links of five or six hairs a-piece, 'till you come to the top-most, make the lower of chesnut-colour, or sorrel brown: then to your reed or cane, have a top neither too stiff nor too feeble, but between both; the cane about three yards and a half long, and the top about a yard and half, or near two yards, in one or two pieces, and five or six inches of whale-bone, smooth, round and pliant.

Observe to lead your line as is consistent with

72 THE TRUE ART

with the waters in rough streams more than in small gentle streams, and least of all in still water; then carry the top or point of your rod in a level with your hand, and so you will by the point of your rod perceive the bite at the ground, then strike strait and gently upwards, and by a little slackening your hand before, you will give the fish time the better to take the bait.

Some are of opinion, if you know that a Trout bites, for to strike at the first biting, but this is only allowed in clear water for Salmon-smelts, Trout and Grayling; and the bait is the best red-worms scoured, or a brandling and gilt-tail, turned head to tail, and run cross ways through the middle, under the wings, and so you may do in muddy water with other worms, as two brandlings, two meadow-worms, &c. A Trout will seize on the bait when it drags on the ground, either in clear or muddy water, but a large Grayling will rather rise a foot or more at your bait from the bottom than descend.

If you angle for a large Trout in muddy water, then it requires some art in baiting of your hook, as suppose the bait is a dew-worm, here you must thrust the hook in towards the tail, a little above the middle, and out again below the head, then draw him above the arming of the hook, or whipping, so put the point into the head of the worm,
until

until it is very near the place where the point of the hook first came out, and so draw back the worm, or that part that was above the shank. This hook should be indifferently large.

To bait two worms in muddy water for a Trout, &c. from eight to ten inches : Take meadow worms or brandlings, or a brandling and gilt-tail, and run the point of the hook in at the head down the body, till it pass the knot, or come to the middle of the worm ; then strip it above the arming or whipping, not bruising it in any manner with your fingers, so put on the other, by running the hook in the same manner, and let the head of it just cover the point of the hook, then slip the first down till the knots or middle of both worms meet together ; and thus you may do by any other worms, for other fish, as by the foregoing directions you find they take them.

*Directions for Angling with the running Line in
clear Water.*

PUT a gilt-tail and small brandling on your hook, as before directed, well scoured, and here your hook must be much smaller than in muddy water, two or three of the

E

lower-

lowermost links of your line of a single hair, so rise from two, or three, or four, of a grey or duskyish white, the line about two yards shorter than the rod, leaded with a small black plummet.

Angle with this in the stream always up it, in a river with a light hand, still casting out the worm before you; let the rod be as the former: And thus you may angle for Salmon-smelts, Trout, or Grayling, to whose proper baits I refer you in my Treatise of baits in this book.

*Directions for the Top-Water Angling, with
a Worm*

YOUR line in this case must be longer than your rod, without any plummet or float, drawing your bait down and up the stream, in a clear day, with a gentle hand, that it may glide, as if it were swimming, and your bait here must be a gilt-tail or brandling; keep it from the shore, and free from entanglements of weeds, woods, rushes, or other incumbrances that hinder sport.

Farther

Farther Directions for Float-angling.

HERE your line must be two or three foot longer than your rod in rivers, but in ponds and pits something shorter. Angling in clear water for Salmon-smelts, Trout, or Grayling, you must put but one hair next the hook; but in muddy water, and for other fish, two or three, observing the running line and rod for the Tench, and proportion this to it, lead it moderately, but so that it may keep the line strait and even; but for Tench, Carp, Barbel, or Chub, your rod and line must have an additional strength in the thickness of the one, and the number of hairs in the other, and your float manageable in the water, proportioned according to the swiftness or slowness of the water, but with one worm, the water being very clear; and observe for some sort of fish, as Flounders, Salmon-smelts, Bream, and Gudgeon, your bait must drag on the ground, but for other sorts, as, Tench, Roach, Bleak, Pike, Ruff, and Carp, at mid-water; for Grayling and Pearch, at six or nine inches from the bottom. The Chub is often taken at bottom, mid-water, and top.

76 THE TRUE ART

You must use the divers sorts of baits, angling with a float; but ground baits are most frequently used, and with success,

Directions for Drabbling.

BY this, Barbels of a large size are taken; to do it compleatly, observe these rules.

Have a strong line of six yards, which before you fasten it to your rod, must be put through a piece of lead, that if the fish bite, it may slip to and fro, and that the water may sometime move it on the ground; bait it with a pretty large lob-worm, well scour-ed, and so by its motion the Barbel will be enticed into the danger without suspicion. The best places are in running water, near piles, or under wooden bridges, supported with oaks floated and slimy.

Angling with the Ledger-bait.

THIS is used for variety of exercise, to give rest to the angler, and so differs from others that are called walking-baits, and this

this is, when the bait continues to rest in one fixed and certain place.

Here you must take off your float, but let the lead remain, and within half a yard of the top of the line, wrap a thin plate of lead, an inch and a half long, and pretty broad, viz. about an inch, so fasten your line to your rod, cast in your bait either in a still, slow draught, or gentle stream, and when it is at the bottom, you may stick your rod in the bank of the river, or hold it in your hand at discretion, and by the bending of the rod, or motion of the lead at top, you will perceive when the fish bites; give her some time, and strike contrary to where her head lies. The Chub and Eel are successfully taken this way.

To lay Night-Hooks.

TO do this effectually, procure a small cord, which may be about sixteen yards long, and to this, at equal distances, tie five or six fine twisted flax or silk lines, about eighteen inches each, of the thickness of your trowling-line, fasten them so that they may be easily removed, and put on again; whip to the ends of each of them a pretty strong
hook,

78 THE TRUE ART

hook, bait with a loach, minow, or bull-head, the fins and gills cut off; or, these being wanting, the Seven-eyes, Eel brood, small Roach, Gudgeon, the pith of an ox or cow's back-bone, &c. will serve for the fish; put the point of the hook in the tail, and out of the mouth, so that the fish's head may have a resting in the hook's bend, and that the point may not be discovered, cover it with a worm, casting the cord, by a weight, over the river, stream, or pond, fasten both ends to stakes on either side, and be there early in the morning, and expect Chub, large Eels, Trout, or Pike, but for a Pike keep the bait with a float about a foot or something more from the bottom.

For this, to gather the fish, you may bait the ground with blood and grains, or sweet made up in sweet-earth, taken from under the green soard; or pastes, &c.

Choice Receipts, or rare Secrets, never before made Public.

TAKE oil of amber, rosemary and myrrh, an equal quantity, infuse in them any worms, or mingle paste with them, and the fish, if near, will hasten to the bait so dipped,

dipped, and then not have power to go away, till they either nibble off the bait, or are taken.

Ground-bait for Carp with unpricked samphire bruised, and made into balls, with wallnut-oil. This likewise allures Tench and Bream.

Over-night mix bean-flower with a little honey, wet it with rectified spirits of wine, and a little oil of turpentine, make it up into little pellets, and such fish as nibble it when thrown in, will be stupified, so that in the morning, coming to themselves a little, they will bite very eagerly, as being, after their drunken fit, exceeding hungry. This likewise is a sure detainer of them all night in summer, so that they will not wander from the place. Nux Vomica, scraped into paste, makes them drunk, so that if the water be shallow, you may go in and take them, when they rise and turn up their bellies as if expiring, though in a little time they will come to themselves again; if the water be deep, you may use a landing-net.

I have set down these ointments, but do not recommend them. The industrious angler will find more pleasure in catching them by neat angling, than any of these expensive means.

A special Winter-Bait to get, and preserve.

WHEN ploughing begins in Autumn, before any frosts come that are forcible to make entrance into the earth; observe where the ploughs are going, if there be store of crows lighted on the ground, especially in that which is heathy, sandy, or greenseard, and follow, you will find a white worm, bigger than a gentle, having a red head, which is held to be bred of the spawn or egg of a beetle, left in those holes she digs in the ground under horse or cow-dung, which, in March or April, turns to a beetle again: You may put about two quarts of these into half a bushel of the same mould; when you gather them, put them in a tub or other vessel, where the frost or wind may not come to kill them, and by this means, when most other baits are out, you may be provided all the seasonable times in winter, and early in spring. They take in those seasons Bream, Carp, Roach, Dace, and Chub.

Gentles may be kept in winter in bran, moss, and scouring-earth, lightly over some putrefaction, in which at the first laying them in the ground, where the frost cannot come at them, you perceive they begin to live.

Unseasonable

Unseasonable Times to Angle in.

HAVING spoke much of the proper times to accommodate the angler, I shall now speak something more of unseasonable ones, that those who are ignorant in this art, as to the niceties of it, may not lose their labour.

The two extrems of weather are not proper, viz.

I. When great droughts have parched the earth, so that the rivers carry but low currents, when the weather is excessive hot in the heat of the day, unless clouds cover all, and winds gently breathe.

II. In frosty or snowy weather, or unhealthy weather, for two reasons, viz. because you will little damage the fish, but greatly injure yourself.

In the morning, either in the spring or advancing of the season, if a hoary frost happen, the fish will be backward in biting that day, and little sport can be expected, for they will not freely rise, except in the evening; and soon after they have spawned they will not bite to the purpose, till with grass and weeds they have well purged and scowered themselves, so that they may by that means recover their strength and appetite.

82 THE TRUE ART

It is not proper to fish when the north or east winds are very sharp.

In brooks that are small and clear, where the water is kept up by mills or dams, is not good angling, for there especially the Trout keeps her holes, and others bite faintly.

Some other useful Observations and Directions.

BE sure always to keep your shadow off the water, and therefore let the sun be in your face, or on one side of you, when you angle, keeping out of sight, and making no noise; and when you are bent for Trout, you need make but three or four essays with the ground-bait or fly; for if they come not then to bite, or offer, either there is not any there, or they keep close in their holes.

If you fish for Carp, cut no weeds in the river, nor on the fides, to make you a convenient standing, for then they will perceive they are laid wait for, and so forsake that haunt, not returning a considerable time.

To catch Fish.

TAKE nettles and cinquefoil, chop them small, mix some juice of houseleek with them, rub your hands therewith, and throw it into the water, and keep your hands in the water, and the fish will come to them, so that you may take them: Or, take heartwort or lime, mingle them together, and throw it into a standing water, and it will fox them, that you may take them with your hands.

To kill Otters, great Destroyers of Fish.

LAY near his haunt an Eel slit on the back, with some few crumbs of arsnick put into the slit, then sow it up again; place the Eel from the navel upward out of the water, and he will eat it so far, and seldom farther, and it kills him.

To take a Hern, a Goot, Cormorant, Sea-pye, and Osprey.

TAKE a Roach or Gudgeon, run a small wire along within the skin, on the backside of

84 THE TRUE ART

of the ribs, then it coming out at the gills, fasten a hook to it, and stake it down, and let the wire be fastened to a line as far as the Heron can wade; the fish will swim and live some time, then leave it, and he will swallow it; thus the other fish-devourers are caught in deeper places. Lime a stick, and put a fish at the end of it, laying it on some water-leaf or rushes, and it catches them when they take it.

To take a Moor-hen.

LAY Lime-twigs, or shoot them; and for Cormorants, destroy their nests, or shoot them. To take a King's-fisher; observe his haunts, and lime the twigs he usually sits on.

To kill Water-Rats.

PIN a square board against the holes where they haunt, which board must have a great hole in the middle, just against their coming in or going out, fastned to the banks, then make a latch, and set it on the outside of the board, tiled like a fox-latch, on the lower
part

part of the hole as before-mentioned, then put three or four pricks of wire, to hold any thing that comes into it.

To take a Pike as he lies sleeping and sunning in fair Weather, with a Loop or Net.

MARCH and August are the best times, Take a long pole or rod that is light and strait, on the small end fasten a running loop of twisted horse-hair and silk, of a large compass, which gently draw on him, when it is five or six inches over his gills, hoist him up, if it is a small Pike, draw it not so far on, and make no noise in walking or speaking: if he lies so that you cannot conveniently noose him, touch his tail with the rod: and he will turn as you please; also with a hand-net, putting it gently under water, guide it just under him, and lift it softly, till you just touch him, and then do it as quick as you can.

How to prevent any Person's catching Fish.

RUB his Line with a little salt, or strew some about it on the water, and you will find no fish will bite.

To invite Fish.

IF you take *Cocculus Indicus*, and make little balls of it with cummin, old cheese, wheat-flower, and wine, (let the balls be no bigger than pease) and throw them into a standing water, or calm places, where fish are, all that taste of it will be presently stupefied, swimming to the shore as if they were drunk, so that you may take them with your hand.

HAVING now given the properest directions for Anglers, I shall now likewise give them some short account of rivers, that the sportsman may know where to apply himself for further experience.

It is uncertain how many rivers England may produce, therefore I shall not aim to describe them. All who live in the country generally know what rivers their own country produces: I shall begin first with the river Lee, generally known in London by the name of Hackney-river, which takes its course through Hempstead and St. Alban's; and

and at Hertford is navigable to London. All the way above Hertford, it produces as good Trout as any river in England, and below Ware, great quantity of Pike, Pearch, Chub, Roach, Dace, and Eels: It has been very much abused by bargemen for several years, but there was lately an act pass'd to make it five pounds penalty to throw in a net; and I hope this will add to the Angler's diversion.

The properest places to angle in, in this river, is about Waltham. Upwards there is very good diversion for any sorts of fish, according to the season of the year. As you come downwards there are several very good stands about Parkinson's-ferry. Near to Chinkfort-church is a stand, called the Willow-chair, and is a very good one for Roach and Dace. You may then keep down the river to Cook's ferry, and you may observe several stands trod very much.

Bolton's-weir, which is about eight miles from London, is a very good place for Roach, Chub, Dace, and Barbel. Green's-weir is not above six miles, and likewise produces very good diversion; as do several other places nearer London; as, the Barge, near Smith's-ferry; the Broad-water below it; and at Oldford, Stratford, Bromley-mills, and near Blackwall, where the river empties
itself,

88 THE TRUE ART

itself, the north-side of the Thames. The next river that empties itself into the Thames of this side, is the Brent. It takes its rise from several little springs and currents on Finchley-Common, and empties itself at Brentford. In the Spring of the year, before it has been poached, is very good diversion for Pike, Pearch, Chub, Roach, Dace, and Gudgeon. The best stands are two or three near King's-bury church, Penup-pool, and St. George's-pool, near Stone-bridge, two or three near Gansford, Crab-tree-hole, near Hamwell-church, and several others between that and Brentford.

Hounslow-river is a part of those streams that come from Uxbridge, and divides itself through Drayton, Colnbrook, Stanwell, &c. It empties itself into the Thames at Isleworth. It contains Pike, Pearch, Roach, Dace, Chub, &c. The best stands are Perry-oaks, near Stanwell, the Powder-mill-tail, and a very deep hole by the bridge, called the Powder-mill-hole. Here has been a great many Carp taken. Lower down is the Warren-hole, and several others between that and Twittenham.

Uxbridge-river is noted for very good Trout, Gudgeons and Eels; but there is no angling there without the consent of the owners,

owners, or paying for what you catch. Lower down is Drayton, which is the same stream, and produces very good diversion for Pike, Pearch, Chub, &c. Here, by applying to one Tooth, who keeps the Jolly Angler, or at the Two Swans, both public houses, each person will give you leave to fish in his separate water; for here the river is rented. There is very good diversion at Drayton-mill, and all the way to Colnbrook. You cannot here fail of diversion at any of the mill-tails; and there are several between this and Stains, where the river empties itself into the Thames. If you have a mind to go higher up the country, the further you go, the more diversion you will have, as at Cookham, Marlow, Henley, &c.

As I am now treating of the Thames, I shall take notice of the particular places of resort, and the rivers that empty themselves into it on the south-side, down to Dartford.

Windsor is a place much resorted to, and there is very good diversion at the Rocks, Old-Hithe, &c.

At Stains, and near, is good diversion for Roach, Dace and Barbel.

At Laylam, there is very little bank-fishing. Here are some deep holes for Barbel, and very good sport for White Fish.

Chertsey

Chertsey-bridge. The water is very deep hereabouts; there is very good diversion for Pearch with a live bait, and no scarcity of any other fish, between this and Shipperton.

Weybridge-river empties itself into the Thames, into which runs Byfleet-river. Here is plenty of all sorts of fish, except Trout; and in the cold months, exceeding good trolling for Jacks; and a great many Carp are here taken with an angle.

Shipperton is the greatest resort for the London anglers. You have watermen here who know their business very well, and are obliging and reasonable. Here is extraordinary sport for Barbel, Roach, Dace, and Gudgeons; and there is very good bank-fishing in Brewer's-mead.

Sunbury. Here you may likewise have boats: The watermen will carry you to the best places, and diversion is not wanting for Pearch, Roach, Dace, and Gudgeon.

Between this and Ditton, Esher and Moulsey rivers empty themselves into the Thames.

These rivers produce Carp, Pike, Pearch, Roach, Chub, Dace, and Gudgeon, and afford the angler as much diversion as any rivers about town.

Ditton-banks afford good diversion for Roach, Chub, and Dace.

Kingston-

Kingston-bridge, and thereabouts, is a very good place for all sorts of White Fish; the watermen can best recommend you.

Teddington-banks is a very good place for Gudgeon, Roach, Dace, &c.

At Twittenham, Isleworth, Richmond and Brentford, are small islands, called Eits, where you may have good diversion out of a boat for Roach, Dace, &c.

Mortlake-deep is likewise a very good place in the winter for large Roach, &c.

Wandsworth. Here Carshalton, Mitcham, and Martin rivers, empty themselves into the Thames. They are fed by each other, and contain very good Trout, Dace, Gudgeon, and Eels. There are several very good Trout-fishers use these rivers, and meet with very good success both at ground and top-water.

Chelsea, against the horse-ferry, is a good place to pitch a boat, and upon Battersea-shoals for Roach and Dace; as also down the river, Westminster-bridge, York-stairs, Somerset-house, Queenhithe, the Three-Cranes, and London-bridge.

You may have a waterman for a groat an hour, who will carry you to any of these places, and inform you more in going once or twice, than reading twenty pages.

Below bridge. You may have very good sport with a Pater-noster line at ship sterns, for Roach, Dace, and Bleak. Lewisham-

Lewis-ham-river empties itself into Deptford-river, and so into the Thames: Neither of them is worth an angler's notice.

At Deptford is a wet-dock, where you may fish for twelve shillings a year, and there is very good sport for Pike, Pearch, Roach, and Bleak.

At Dartford in Kent, is a very good river that empties itself into the Thames, and affords plenty of Trout, Dace, Gudgeon, and Eels.

On the opposite shore in Essex, is Dagenham-Breach, where you may fish with the consent of the person that keeps a public house, and there is great quantity of Carp, Tench, Pike, Pearch, and Eels.

Barkin-Creek is now made navigable up to Ilford, where Woodford-river empties itself. They both afford Pike, Pearch, Dace, Roach, Chub, Eels, and Gudgeon. The most noted stands in Woodford-river are in the fields behind Lord Castlemain's; others near the Red-house; and several about the late Sir Joseph Eyles's.

The New-river. It takes its rise from a spring near Ware, and empties itself into the New-river-head at Islington. It is inferior to none for goodness of fish, and would be very plentiful, but that being so near London, it is very much abused. It containeth

taineth plenty of Chub, Roach, Dace, Gudgeon and Eels. There are several very good stands near Bowe's-farm, which is seven miles from London.

The Physic-gardens, Wood-ditch, and also the Tile-kiln Rounds, are much frequented. The anglers that use this river have brought angling to a great perfection in general: The fish are but small, but they use exceeding fine tackle, and generally fish with paste; and there are some who use this river, capable of fishing with any men in the world, for Dace, Roach, &c.

As the tackle should be suitable to the river, I shall not trouble you with directions to make it. You may have that, and all other sorts of the best tackle I ever used, ready made, at Mr. *Onesimus Ustons*'s, in Bell-yard, Temple-bar.

To make and order Fish-Ponds.

MOORISH ground, and such as is full of springs is best, the first breeds them well, the last prevents their being stoln; next, let your pond be so ordered, that it may receive the rain-water that falls from the hills, for that mightily refreshes them; and if your pond

pond can receive the piss of horses, and other cattle, they will produce the largest and fattest fish. Let your pond's head be at the lowest part of the ground, and let the flood-gate have a quick and swift fall, that when you go to empty it, you may not be too long about it : In building your pond, the best way is to drive a row of stakes of six or seven foot long, and six or seven inches square, and at four foot distance ; elm is better than oak, drive them in the length of the pond's head, and ram the first row four foot and a half deep, then they will be strong. Next, dig your pond and throw the earth among the stakes and piles ; when they are covered well, drive another row over them, and ram the earth in the void places, that it lie close and keep the water in the better ; and thus you must continue stake on stake, raming the earth till the head be as high as you would have it.

Let the inside of the dam be smooth, that no current may have power over it ; let your pond carry six foot water, and be eight foot deep, to receive the rains that fall into it : Floor the bottom with large turfs of sedge-grass, close joined and staked down ; stake also on the pond-side several faggots of light wood, but not oak, for that is bitter and offensive ; these faggots shelter the fish, and
after

after they cast their spawn, preserves them from vermin, and the young fish from devourers; let them also have some retiring places, as roots of trees or hollow banks, both to cherish them in cold and heat, and preserve them from danger. Carp, Tench, and Bream store by themselves: Pearch and Pike by themselves: Put into it either Minnows or Dace, but Roach are injurious to all ponds and great breeders. Ponds with strong sandy bottoms, that lie warm and out of the wind, with nut-trees and willows also sheltered, are best for Carp to breed in, and new made ponds breed better than old, that are full of weeds and mud, therefore every three years cleanse them from the mud-filth. To make a breeding pond or store pond, sow it, put in all Spawners, or all Millers; observe, that store ponds afford the largest and fattest Carp. In a breeding pond put three Spawners to one Miller. Draw your pond about Allhollantide, and keep of females a sufficient number for breeding. Indeed, you ought not to kill any of them, they will live and breed fifty or sixty years; but you may kill all the males that are above three years old, and put the rest that are three, two, or one year old, into the pond again, as many of them as the pond will maintain; this do once every year.

Mr.

Mr. Worlidge says, that dead, heavy, and gross waters, are most proper for Carp, Tench, Bream, &c. but especially Carp; and those ponds that are nearest the sea, and whose water is a little brackish, yields the best and fattest Carp; and, that if you cast into your fish-ponds, through which there is but little current, sometimes a load of the refuse salt-earth, that as the saltness is cast out, and so of no value, it improves them as salt does pigeons; and that Trout-ponds being made at the head of a chalky spring, that they may feed at the very atoms of chalk that issues out of the rocks with the water, are a great improvement to these fish; Some, says he, feed them with flesh, &c. but it is not so good as their natural food.

Feed your Pike, Carp, and other fish, with bread, grains, chippings of bread, entrails of chickens, &c.

If you would have Carp large in April, the water then growing low, cleanse the sides where the water is fallen away, with a rake, and then sow hay-seed round about, and rub it in well, and about September the grass will grow, and the water over-flow it, and they feeding thereon, speedily become fat Carp of a delicious taste.

Observations. Female Carp are eight or nine years before they breed much, therefore it

it is requisite you should get some of that age to have speedy advantage by them, you ought to have two or three, lest one should die; the male ought to be four years old; put into each female fourteen males. A pond of half an acre will feed yearly four hundred Carp. To make them very fat and large, not only hay-feed, &c. as is already said, but if you take them out of the pond, and put them into pits or puddles in pastures, or deep ditches in meadows, they will speedily grow very large. It is said, Carp never feeds but in the Summer-season, and that a deep pond of twelve foot square, and lies warm, will yield six hundred Carp.

Another says, that putrified and stinking water, injures fish the worst of any thing, therefore cleanse your ponds every three years at least, of wood, sedges, and filth. In clay countries, ponds are subject to mud, therefore once in seven years drain them in the beginning of the Spring; put the fish you preserve into smaller pits or stews, the other use as you please; then, causing men to tread the mud with their feet, the Eels will rise out, then take them, afterwards let the men throw out the mud, and fill it, which is good compost for land; then sod the bottom and sides of the pond with green sods, and fix them hard in with stakes of

F

fallows,

fallows, these sides will nourish the fish exceedingly.

This done, if there is no fresh spring in the pond, then lade the water back again into it, then drawing your sluices, take out your store of fish, and put them again into your pond, and observe that there be two parts Spawners, and a third Millers. These pits and small stews are best for feeding, therefore always keep them with fresh water, and placed so one by another, that you may empty them when you please; once in three months put fresh sods on the banks and bottoms, of the fruitfullest grass. You must put into them, store of Roach, Dace, Minnows, Loach, and Miller's-thumb, for the bigger fish to feed thereon, also garbage, and the blood of sheep, calves, hogs, and the like, will fatten them speedily; for as fish in rivers have ever something brought them to feed on, so those imprisoned in ponds, and want that help, must be relieved, or perished: Feed them also with grains, curds, chippings of bread, and any sort of grain, thrown into the ponds morning and evening.

THE
NEW ANGLER.

I.

WHEN powerful Spring its virtue yields,
And drives black Winter from the fields ;
And o're each mead, and thro' each grove,
Blest nature breaths her sweets of love :
Then to the verdent rivers shore,
Near which the jolly Angler's store,
In various plenty we may find,
Repair to satiate the mind.

CHORUS.

There haste ye brothers of the train,
To taste delights that none but you,
From old experience retain ;
And add fresh pleasure to the new.

II.

With tack and baits of every sort,
All well apply'd for fishing sport ;
What pastime can with ours compare,
If time permit us to repair

To Ozier bank, or soft retreat,
Where pleasingly we recreate ;
With bait well fixed on our hook,
In river, pond, canal, or brook ?

Chorus. There hast ye brothers, &c.

III.

Void of bustle, noise and strife,
How blest the jolly Angler's life :
Let others brag of sport robust,
That hunting, shooting, is their gust ;
The jolly Angler's life serene,
Hath ever preferable been :
From pond, or pool, or rivulet bright,
To catch a dish, how we delight !

Chorus. There hast ye brothers, &c.

IV.

When thus we've spent the joyous day,
We could the night, and never cloy,
As purest pastimes, such as these
The jolly Angler ever please ;

Fresh

Fresh bloom they give, and health combine,
 Sure Heaven invented rod and line !
 In river, pond, or purling rill,
 Our views the mind with pleasure fill.

C H O R U S.

There haste ye brothers of the train,
 To taste delights that none but you,
 From old experience retain ;
 And add fresh pleasure to the new.

A S O N G.

To the Tune of *My Father was born
before me.*

I.

OF all the recreations
Which attend on human nature,
There is none that is, of so high a pitch,
Or is of such a stature ;
As is the subtle Angler's life,
In all men's approbation :
For angler's tricks do daily mix,
In every corporation.

II.

Whilst Eve and Adam lived in love,
And had no cause of jangling ;
The Devil did the waters move,
The Serpent went to angling ;
His hook he baits with Godlike look,
He thought that would entangle her ;
By this all ye may plainly see,
The Devil was first an Angler.

Physicians,

III.

Physicians, Lawyers, and Divines,
 Are all compleat entanglers ;
 And all that know them, will incline
 To their being dextrous Anglers :
 The grave Divines do fish for souls,
 Physicians for Curmudgeons ;
 They bait with health, but fish for wealth,
 As Lawyers fish for Gudgeons.

IV.

Upon the 'Change 'twixt twelve and one,
 Meets many-a neat entangler ;
 'Mongst Merchant-men, not one in ten,
 But what is a cunning Angler :
 For like the fishes in the brook,
 Brother doth swallow brother ;
 A golden bait hangs at the hook,
 And they fish for one another.

V.

A shop-keeper I next prefer,
 He's a formal man in black, fir,
 He throws his angle every where,
 And cries, What is it you lack, fir ?
 Fine silk, or stuffs, cravats, or cuffs,
 But if a courtier prove the entangler,
 My citizen, he must look to it then,
 Or the fish will catch the Angler.

But

VI.

But there is no such angling as a wench,
 Stark naked in the water ;
 She will make you leave both Trout and
 Tench,
 And throw yourself in after :
 Your hook and line she will confine,
 Thus tangled is the entangler ;
 And this I fear hath spoiled the gear
 Of many a jovial Angler.

VII.

But if you will trowl for a Scrivener's soul,
 Cast in a rich young gallant ;
 To take a courtier by the pole,
 Throw in a golden talent.
 But yet I fear the drought will ne'er
 Compound for half the charge on't ;
 But if you'll catch the Devil at stretch,
 You must bait him with a sergeant.

VIII.

Thus have I made my Anglers trade,
 To stand above defiance ;
 For like the mathematic art,
 It runs through every science :
 If with my angling song I can,
 To mirth and pleasure seize you ;
 I'll bait my hook with wit again,
 And angle still to please you.

THE

THE
MILK-MAID'S SONG.

I.

COME live with me and be my love,
And we will all the pleasures prove
That valleys, groves, or hills, or fields,
Or woods and steepy mountains yields.

II.

Where we will sit upon the rocks,
And see the shepherds feed our flocks,
By shallow rivers, to whose falls,
Mellodious birds sing madrigals.

III.

I will make thee beds of roses,
And a thousand fragrant posies,
With a cap of flowers, and kirtle,
Nearly deck'd with leaves of myrtle,

A gown

IV.

A gown made of the finest wool,
Which from our pretty lambs we pull;
Slippers lin'd choicely for the cold,
With buckles of the purest gold.

V.

A belt of straw and ivy-buds,
With coral clasps and amber studs:
And if these pleasures may thee move,
Come live with me and be my love.

VI.

Thy silver dishes for thy meat,
As precious as the gods do eat,
Shall on an ivory table be
Prepar'd each day for thee and me.

VII.

The shepherds swains shall dance and sing
For thy delight, each May morning;
If these delights thy mind can move,
Then live with me and be my love.

THE

T H E

MILK-MAID's MOTHER's ANSWER.

I.

IF all the world and love were young,
And truth in every shepherd's tongue,
These pretty pleasures, might me move
To live with thee and be thy love.

II.

But time drives flocks from field to fold
When rivers rage, and rocks grow cold,
And Philomel becometh dumb,
The rest complain of cares to come.

III.

The flowers do fade, and wanton fields,
To wayward winters reckoning yields,
A honey tongue, a heart of gall,
Is fancies spring, but sorrows fall.

IV.

Thy gowns, thy shoes, thy beds of roses,
Thy cap, thy kirtle, and thy posies,
Soon break, soon wither, soon forgotten,
In folly ripe, in reason rotten.

Soon

V.

Thy belt of straw and ivy-buds,
Thy coral clasps and amber studs,
All these in me no means can move,
To come to thee and be thy love.

VI.

What should we talk of dainties then,
Of better meat than's fit for men?
These are but vain : that's only good,
Which God hath blest, and sent for food.

VII.

But could youth last, and love still breed,
Had joys no date, nor age no need ;
Then those delights my mind might move,
To live with thee, and be thy love.

CORIDON'S

CORIDON'S SONG.

I.

OH the sweet contentment
The countryman doth find !
 High trolollie lollie loe,
 High trolollie lee,
That quiet contemplation
Possesseth all my mind :
 Then care away,
 And wend along with me.

II.

For courts are full of flattery,
As hath too oft been try'd ;
 High trolollie lollie loe, &c.
The city full of wantonness,
And both are full of pride :
 Then care away, &c.

III.

But oh the honest countryman,
Speaks truly from his heart,
 High trolollie lollie loe, &c.

His

His pride is in his tillage,
His horses and his cart :

Then care away, &c.

IV.

Our cloathing is good sheeps skins,
Gray ruffet for our wives,

High trolollie lollie loe, &c.

'Tis warmth and not gay cloathing
That doth prolong our lives :

Then care away, &c.

V.

The ploughman, though he labours hard,
Yet on the holy-day,

High trolollie lollie loe, &c.

No Emperor so merrily

Does pass his time away :

Then care away, &c.

VI.

To recompence our tillage,

The Heavens afford its showers ;

High trolollie lollie loe, &c.

And

[III]

And for our sweet refreshments

The earth affords us bowers :

Then care away, &c.

VII.

The Cuckoe and the Nightingale,

Full merrily do sing,

High trolollie lollie loe, &c.

And with their pleasant roundelaies,

Bid welcome to the Spring.

Then care away, &c.

VIII.

This is not half the happiness

The countryman enjoys ;

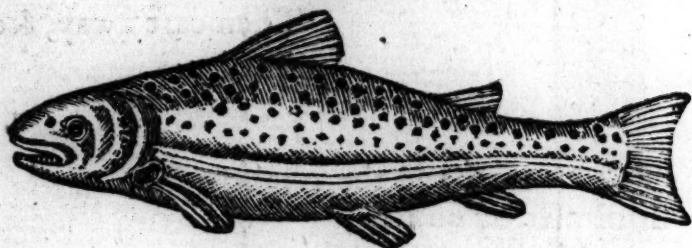
High trolollie lollie loe, &c.

Though others think they have as much,

Yet he that says so lies :

Then come away, turn

Countryman with me.



TO ALL
LOVERS OF ANGLING:

CHARLES KIRBY, Nephew of THOMAS KIRBY, lately deceased, and Son of CHARLES KIRBY, Grandson of TIMOTHY, the Original Maker of the much admired Fish-Hooks, for temper, strength, and smallness of wire, well known by the name of KIRBY's Hooks, (of which I am now the only maker.) To prevent all impositions of pretended makers and sellers of Hooks, called KIRBY Hooks, do hereby declare my engagement with

MR. USTONSON,
At N^o 48, the bottom of Bell-Yard, near Temple-Bar, London, the original Shop, for whom I make, and no other person. At the above shop are made and sold all sorts of Fishing Rods and Tackle, both wholesale and retail.



